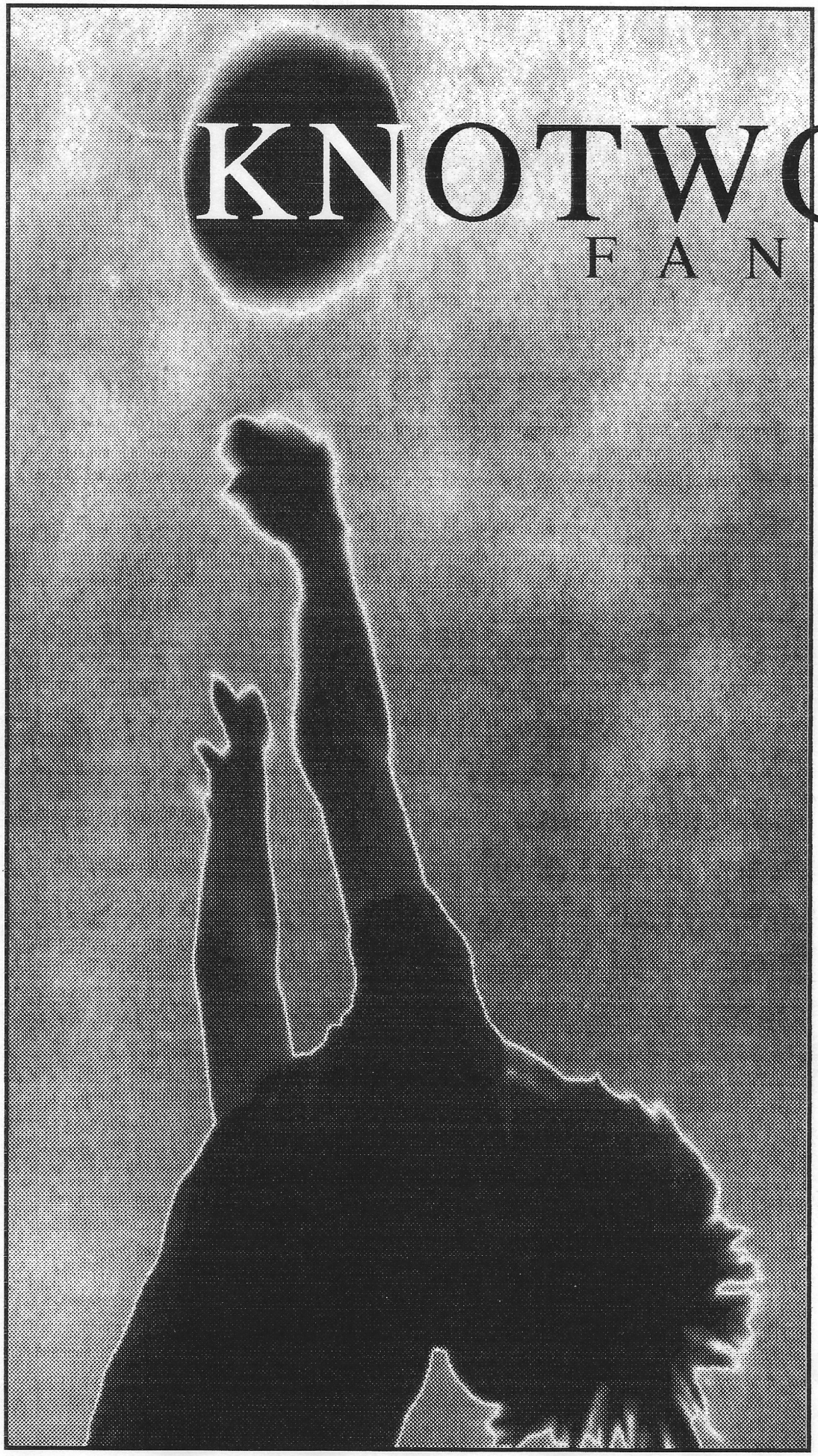


KNOTWORK
FANZINE

life

death

sex

money

love

hate

politics

4walls

vic: 108

laststraw

hardcore

xxx

issuenumber2

K N O T W O R K

F A N Z I N E

I CAME THIS CLOSE. I CAME THIS CLOSE TO THROWING IT ALL AWAY. I, AT ONE TIME, BELIEVED IT WASN'T FUN ANY MORE, BUT I'M THE ONE TO BLAME FOR THAT. AND I REALIZED IT WASN'T FUN BECAUSE I WAS UNSATISIFIED WITH THE WAY THINGS WERE TURNING OUT, IT WAS ME TRYING TO PUT OUT A ZINE THAT EVERYONE WOULD LIKE. NO MATTER HOW MUCH I DENIED IT, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I WOULD SAY TO MYSELF THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M GONNA DO WITH ANY OF MY ZINES, ITS ALWAYS THE CASE. YOU CANT ALWAYS WRAP A NICE PACKAGE AROUND HARDCORE AND EXPECT EVERYONE TO LIKE IT. AND IN RETURN, SHOW SOME RESPECT EVEN IF WHAT YOUR READING OR LISTENING TO DOESN'T FIT YOUR STANDARDS. I KNOW THIS ZINE WONT APPEAL TO EVERYONE, I KNOW YOUR ZINES WONT ALL APPEAL TO ME. JUST AS LONG AS YOU AND I ARE HAPPY AND HAVING FUN DOING IT AT THE SAME TIME.

JON

XXX STRONGER THAN EVER XXX

thanks - thank all of you whom directly or indirectly helped and contributed to the publication of this zine.

notes.

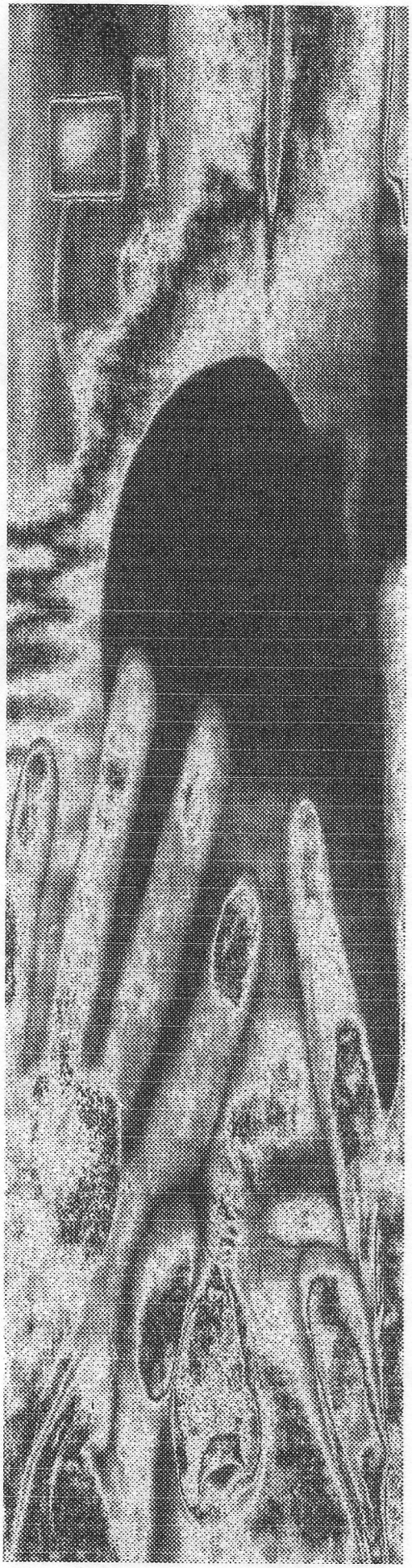
1. the "what straightedge means to you?" segment and the first part of the 4 walls falling interview was donated to us by mike parcell.

2. all of the photos were taken by me unless otherwise noted.

3. the lay out was done by me except teh first parts of the "what straightedge means to you?" segment and the 4 walls falling interview.

4. sorry for the delay this should have been out much sooner...

216 s. cedar la., upper darby, pa 19082



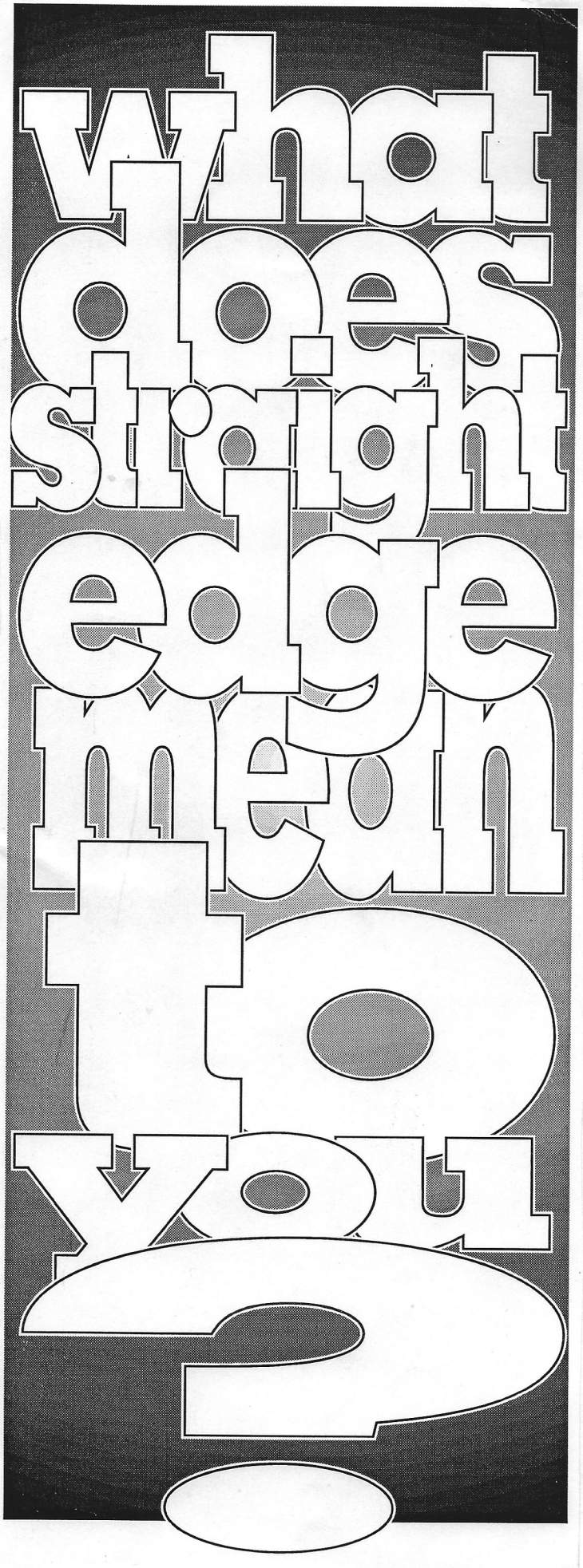
Intro.

I sit here under the glare of artificial light, transferring my thoughts from brain to paper by way of one ink pen. This page will be neatly re-created and re-printed from undecipherable scrawl to beautifully legible computer diction. I have much to say and i weigh each passing thought with equal attention... I do not wish to be misunderstood.

Beginning is the hardest part. You take that initial first step and you end up falling flat on your face. You take the pain in stride. Undaunted, you lift yourself back up and attempt to go at it again, not knowing if you'll succeed this time but attempting the endeavor all the same. (Hello persistence.) This is our second step and I'm not sure if it will proceed any better than our first but that's where all the fun lies, in the uncertainty of not knowing. (Life would lose its thrill if i could just skip a few chapters ahead and sneak a peek at the conclusion. Besides, the conflicting desire of wanting to know what will happen to me in my future verses not wanting to know what will happen to me would be enough tension to drive me insane. Well, further insane if that's possible.)

Anyway, I'm not particularly fond of introductions and I'm annoying myself with this one. (Although, it is long enough isn't it?) It's such a great exercise, writing. For me, it takes everything to place pen to paper and write. It's such an obstruction to keep hold of my ideas and overcome that ever persistent and defiant sluggishness that seems intent on stopping me. Damn. (I could use some Steven King juice right now. The man writes 6 pages a day, NO matter where he is or what's happening around him. That's dedication.) Now, i may not possess that mans skill with words or his ability to tell a decent story but i can manage to slap together a readable paragraph or two. (Hopefully, enough to fill a fanzine.) So, i guess that's all for now. I hope you can enjoy what's to follow. I'm sure i enjoyed writing it.

Looking forward...and backwards
(but not paranoid)
...scratch



When we started this idea of asking people "What does straight edge mean to you?" we thought we could clear up some misconceptions of straight edge. But the responses we recieved didn't clear anything up it just made things more complicated. So what you have before you is a collection of thoughts from various people (some of which we asked, some of which were contributed) who were kind enough to write. So hopefully you can read this and decide fairly on what straight edge means to yourself.

Straight Edge and Me: (Less Than)

Perfect Together by: Joseph A. Gervasi

"Back in the Day", as those who, more likely than not, weren't there would say, I saw 'em all: Youth of Today, Gorilla Biscuits, Judge, Chain of Strength, Supertouch, Seven Seconds (when they were good), Bold, Sick of it All, Brotherhood, Underdog, Insted, Inside Out, ad nauseam. I saw every major youth crew band of the late 80's, but what I remeber most were not the sing-along pile-ups, the feeling of unity or the gravity defying leaps of everyone's straight edge heroes. Rather, I remember violent pits that anyone with a tenth of a brain (that in itself was a rarity at most of those shows) wouldn't get within tenfeet of for fear of a cracked skull (thanks to stagedivers) or a punch in the face from a testosterone pumped skinhead, kids who didn't sport the proper gear being ostracized, and the rich kids in all the Champion and Nike wear hoarding "limited edition" colored vinyl 7"s.

This is not to say that I didn't like these shows or that I hated straight-edge, per se. I went to all of these shows because because I loved hardcore and if I wanted to go to shows, these were the options. I never fit in with the youth crew, and really had no desire to (and this was when looking punk got you spat upon, called a "fuckin' faggot" and even beat up, not photographed for Details or Sassy). While I liked some of the bands (mostly the older ones), I mostly found the scene to be stupid and violent, each band a weaker clone of the one who followed it. I wasn't down with the crews, but when they all moved on to college ("true till death" became "true till college") and the "joys" of alcohol, drugs and cigarettes, I remained poison-free.

I had been straight all my life, and my introduction to in the spring of '87 only strengthened my feelings. I am quite certain, however, that even if I never discovered punk, I would still be drug-free today. For me it was just common sense: drugs, alcohol and and cigarettes made one stupid and sick, so why would I want to put poison into body? The fact that my father smoked all during my childhood didn't help any. I've never been tempted to change my views to some horseshit "moderation edge" (I do drink a glass of wine once or twice a month with a meal, but I've done that all my life - it's a dago thing, you wouldn't understand), though I've never referred to myself as being straight edge or worn the almighty X on my hand.

These days my feelings on the SXE movement are very

mixed. It's still very big here on the East Coast and in scattered other parts of the U.S. (Syracuse being a very infamous SXE zone) , but it mutated into something very different in a lot of ways. While '88 "old school" nostalgia (along with Star Wars mania) may be in full swing, SXE has merged into emo and gone very soft and esoteric or full-on crazy like some San Diego bands. Emo always bored me, and mock angst-ridden pretentsion is just silly, so SXE still doesn't hold much for me. While there are, in my opinion, a lot of cool bands coming out of this post-SXE thing (like Nations of Fire, Antioch Arrow, Policy of 3, Universal Order of Armageddon and Born Against {R.I.P.}, all or whom are pretentiiious in their own very theaterical way), it's still riddled with karatekicks, fashion consciosness and rich kids collecting crapola. SXE 'zines are no better with their computer-core layouts, inane interviews, absence of grammer and proper spelling and the endless lame and simplistic articles on topics such as keeping the edge' animal rights/veganism, racism (an old stand by) and the new kid on the block, sexism. All these topics are worthy of discussion, but not when the best they can offer is phamplet reprints and silly slogans. There's a whole world out there, look for something new to write about (and learn to write instead of just memorizing song lyrics).

So there's my opinion on straight edge. I'm 22 now, but even more involved in punk/hardcore than I've ever been. I work on my publication, NO LONGER A FANzine, for a few hours a day and play an integral role in Philly's all ages, smoke-, alcohol- and profit-free venue, the Cabbage Collective. There's no sell-out forthcoming for me, which is more than I can say for most of today's preachers of the edge.

[I thank Bellwether 'zine for asking the question and providing the forum for my response. My 'zines can be purchased for $2 post-paid each ($3 for any two) from: JOSEPH A. GERVASI, 142 FRANKFORD AVE., BLACKWOOD, N.J. 08012).]

Adam-12... Arm's Reach fanzine

My straight-edge is a reaction. It is a response to those who glorify, rationalize and propagate their vices as either fashionable, desirable, or being without importance. My straight-edge means being drug-free (alcohol, THC, nicotine, etc...). My straight-edge has nothing to do with baseless elitism. Straight-edge isn't that big a deal. It's relevance to the rest of the world is inconsequential. I disagree with people who place more and more conditions on the philosphy of straight-edge (like veganism/ vegetarianism, pro-choice/ pro-life, communist/ anti-communist, etc...) to try to make it some sort of an all-encompassing world-view or life-philosophy. It is preciselyu because I feel that straight-edge has fairly narrow requirements that I don't draw any allegiances along such lines. Straight-edge is an important part of me. But there are other. More important parts to me as well. I am straight-edge. Next question.-Adam-12c/o Arm's Reach Fanzine

P.O. Box 4 station c

toronto, ont. canada

M6J3M7

Justine De metrick...Intermission zine'

To me, I associate it with dorks like Don Stedfast. I have never been straight edge and even if I were to meet all the criter that fails under this dogmatic title, I'd still have nothing to do with it. I think with the exception of No for an Answer and Youth of Today, the music sucks, and at 24 years of age I have more pressing concerns in my life to deal with. I don't care if someone is but if they care so much that I am notthan that's a bee in their bonnet so let yap all they want I don't care. Good night.

Justine De metrick

Kent Mcklard...Ebullition records

Straight-edge means literally having an edge on life by keeping your head clear. I am vegan, an anarchist-communist, a punk, and a lot of other things, but I don't believe that those other beliefs have anything to do with straight-edge. Straight-edge is not a political ideology. It isn't a diet. It isn't a fashion statement, or a certain sound of music. Straight-edge is keeping your head clean from substances that fuck with your ability to get through life. The only additional thing that I think is involved is a certain attitude towards sexual relations. I think straight-edge has a lot to do with treating sex with a mutual give-and-take experience and not as a sporting event to be won or lost. Straight-edge is ultimately about respect. Respect for yourself and respect for those around you. But at the core, when you get the term down to an exact meaning I believe you are only talking about keeping your body clean from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. That's what

JAWBOX p: ryan

it means to me. I sometimes broaden the term to incorporate other ideas but really I think that is sort of a personal enlargement of the idea that doesn't necessarily mean shit to other straight edge people. I've met straight edge people that were assholes, sexist, racist, fascist, and shit heads, and I have also met straight edge people that were way cool, libral, honest, communist, anarchist, and vegan. The only thing that we share is the non-use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Straight edge isn't a club, and it is'nt a way to lath on to group identities. Straight edge just means that you don't drink, smoke, or take drugs. Hey, but thats just my opinion. The person that coined the the term no longer even acknowledges the words at all. Ultimately words only mean what you want them to mean. Kent Mcklard. P.O. Box 680, Goleta, CA

Glendale p: ryan

Rob Fish..Ressurection

Straight edge is not me. It is a part of my life. At one point it was a major part. Now it is more inbred. So many people are never so lucky. Straight edge is not the end. It is a beginning. A stepping stone if I may say so. It is a lifestyle that, if properly utilized, gives way to clear thought. Straight edge is only worth as much as it gives growth to your intelligence. otherwise it is just another dress, another distraction, another crutch.

I won't say that I am not amused when I hear of those that have fallen. Yet, I have gotten to a point where I can see the bigger picture. Everyone goes through their struggles. For some it is alcohol. For some it is for sex. For some it is for religion. For some it is atheism. For some it is a 9 to 5 job. Some of the hero's of the 90's have now fallen. Who gives a fuck? A lot of people. Now the whole new breed of zines and bands will bitch about how pissed they are. Well the ultimate test is lie's in what you'll be doing in ten years. What does their problems have to do with your life. Can you tell me that you don't adhere to your own form of intoxication? Living your life through 8 hours of TV a day. Through straight edge. Through religon. Through sex. Through hate. Through righteousness. We all have our struggles and hang up's. Just some are better at hiding it.

I can't say that I am so much better. Am I so righteous? It is funny when I read comments I made five years ago in zines about those who fell. Maybe funny isn't the word I am looking for. Sad is the word. I am no better.

Straight has given a lot to me. It was one ingredient that made me who I am today (unfortunately, now some people will really hate straight edge). Even for those who have "fallen" it gave something to them. Hopefully, one day they will get the opportunity to see that and take advantage of it. These years are only a small fraction of what is yet to come. So let's use our experiences and realizations to mature and grow.

The pressure is mounting a vice is forming can you stand on your own?

Take a sip it doesn't matter when your addicted your on your own. Their pulling your leg and once it's broken you'll walk on a crutch on your own.

Peer pressure will always be there. I am not trying to push you. A slave to the bottle and your shit out of luck.

Robert Fish 305 Schermerhorn St. Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217

ExMxSx...Suprise Attack zine'

What does straight-edge mean to me? Straight-edge means so much to me it is hard to put into words but I will try. In the simplest of forms, straight-edge is purity. Not only purity but also knowledge. Knowledge is the key to achieving purity. Straight-edge = knowledge about oneself, others, and everything on or involved with this world. On a more personal level, individual level of what straight-edge means to me (ExMxS). Straight-edge means moving into a new form and way of life. Packing everything up and leaving behind loved ones, things, and oppurtunities that will be missed. It means only having memories of where I lived and the way of life I led. I moved here to Harrisburg awhile back and I found out that I don't belong here, I'm not exactly sure where I belong, but I know not here. I discovered that I am not Like everyone in Harrisburg. I then discovered straight-edge It's beautiful and complex yet it's simple. I began to find out more about myself and this world that I'm trapped in. I started learning about humans and their behavior. The way they oppress not only themselves, but other creatures too. It's about living in a house of full of strangers that are my so called "family". They can't accept what straight-edge is about. It's about having to go to a new school with ignorant people and media clones walking about in a social frenzy. It makes me ill when I walk the halls of C.D. high, but I must according to the almighty law. It's about being all alone until one day I find

out that there are others like me. These others are a select few who know how I feel. We all share a bond of some sort. Straight-edge is one of these bonds. Straight-edge is about doing a zine (plug- Surprise Attack) with a fellow straight-edge kid to help out other bands, zines, etc...and to inform others of what straight-edge is about. Straight-edge is about driving four hours with people I just met to see bands I've never heard of. It's about getting lost but still searching and never giving up. Once we finally find this show, the people then help me out by supporting Surprise Attack by purchasing one or trading for other zines. I am overwhelmed by all of this. It's fantastic. We then leave with two other car loads of drug-free youth that I do not know and I get pulled over at a sobriety chackpoint. What a joke. These "checkpoints" should be placed by a bar. Obviously the drunk has to drive home sometime. Instead they pull over a car load of pure straight-edge kids. It's about staying over at someone's house who I don't know and and they don't know me. Everything is cool. We all realize that we have a lot more in common then we thought. It's about pelting each other with snow balls and not caring what happens. It's about having fun for that day. We all have new friends just because of one thing , straight-edge. We all would of never met if it wasn't for straight-edge. Straight-edge helped me have one of the most memorable weekends . Unfortunately,we then have go home to Harrisburg. Harrisburg= straight-edge hell. It means achieving your goals with not using crutches and also, if needed, having other people, straight-edge people, to help you out in your time of need. It's about going to higher levels. Levels beyond our imagination. Straight-edge can take you further than anything else in the world. There's no stopping it. I= straight-edge, straight-edge=me, straight-edge=you (hopefully), together we=straight-edge, straight-edge= life. One cannot deny that straight-edge is the best life for oneself.

Josh Grabelle...Trustkill zine\records

straight-edge is about pick slides, baggy pants, X's, stage dives, mace, and cheesy bands that sell out within a year of their first release. no seriously, it is. this is the way i have fun, and that is what straight-edge is about, having fun. people who drink have fun in ad ifferent way, but I choose not to do it in that manner. fun to them is praying to the procelian god, spending all their money on poisen, destroying their liver, picking fights with kids at denny's, and acting like complete fools. some have argued what is a better lifestyle, but i have made my own decision. i am straight edge, i have an edge on people who decide to slowly bring their lives to an end with intoxication and others. will i be straight edge forever? probably not. it seems to me that the only people who over use the negative affects of drugs, are people under the age of twenty five. that is the catagory i fall into at this time. i dissociate myself from these people now as much as possible. when we get older, they will relize how silly they have been acting and will cease getting drunk or getting baked like an apple pie. they might drink a little every now and then, and i don't really have too much of a problem with that, although

Undertow p: millisa

i will choose not to then as well. i like to be consistent you know? but when i am older, i do not think i will have to detach myself as much as i like to now. i will still have the edge on them so to speak, because my liver will last a hell of a lot longer... they'll be sorry. it's not so much as who can have the most fun, it's who can have the most fun for the longest amount of time. i'll out fun and that's a promise.

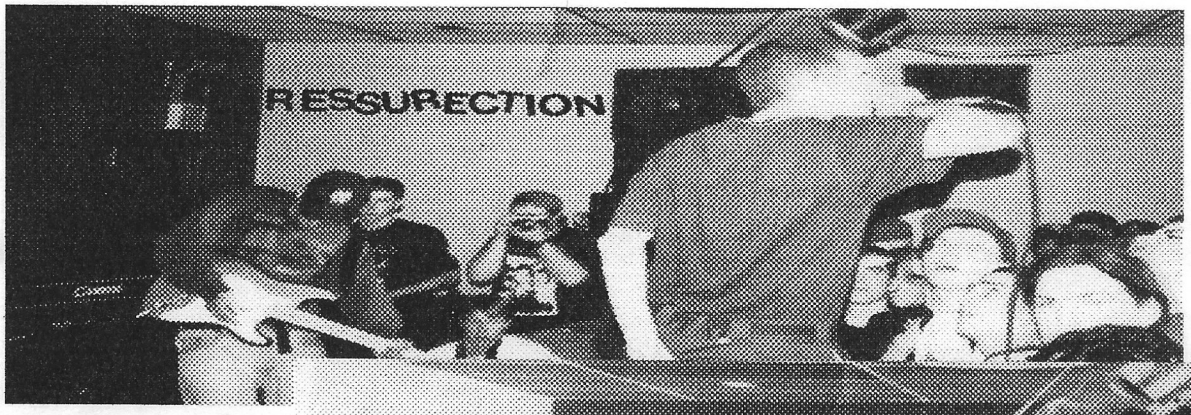
josh grabelle. 23 farm edge la. falls, nj. 07724. 908-842-3048

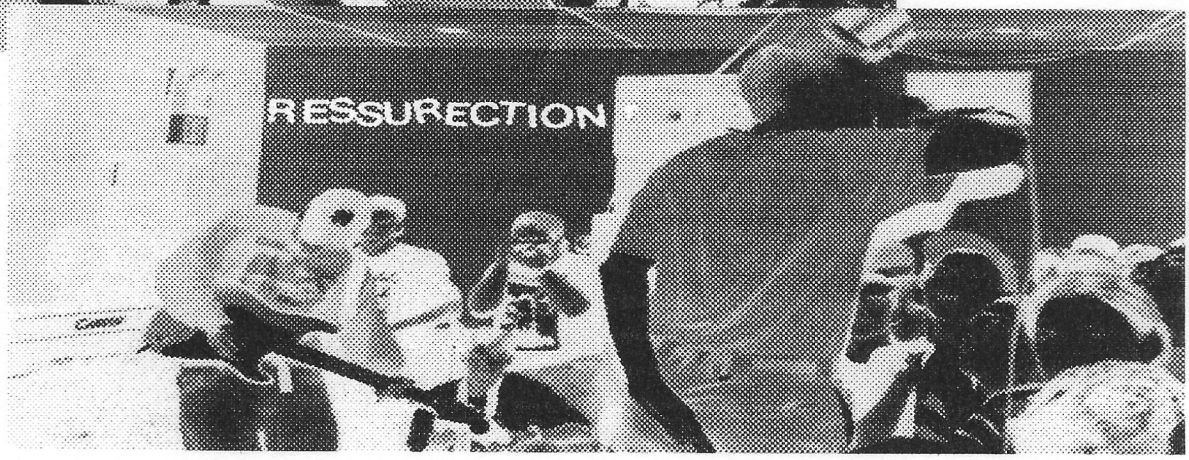
what does straightedge mean to you?

Sparky...Turner Fanzine

Straight-edge means, to me, to never touch another mind altering substance in my entire life. Straight-edge is a promise. Straight-edge, to me, means absolute intolerance of those who stand in the path of my struggle to uphold that promise, straight-edge, to me, means respect for my body and mind, and those around me, straight-edge to me is a stepping stone to a higher consciousness and a greater caring (i.e.-vegetarianism, veganism). My straight-edge is not a branch of my life, it is my life, straight-edge, to me, is respect of life in all senses, straight-edge is resistance to the system, straight-edge, to me, boycott of all the evil that lurks in the world. Straight-edge, to me, has nothing to do with the youth crew, the word "go!", Youth of Today, or Positive Youth, and holds only a song name in common with Minor Threat. That's what straight-edge is to me, and me only, let others decide what about for them.

Sparky c/o Turner Fanzine, 49, Farewell, RI 02840





Jennifer Eislele...Filter Fanzine

"Have you ever been to a show in the 80's?" That's , question that is tossed around so much. Who the hell cares? No, I haven't been to a show in the 80's. (Besides the Violent Femmes whom my mom only let me go see because i went with an older friend). Mind you I was only 13 in the 80's and was lucky if my mom let me go out after school to skate!!! I am so sick of hearing about that. So many think that if you haven't been born into hardcore, then you are incapable of giving a shit. One of my friends (who happens to be around 22 or so) always comments on how clueless I am because I wasn't around "back in the day". This friend also fell (if you know what I mean) a couple weeks ago. (Guess straight-edge really meant a lot to him). Anyway, in my eyes it doesn't matter how long you've been into hardcore or if you saw Youth of Today, it only matters what's in your heart. I love hardcore. I get the greatest high off of going to shows. I love reading zines and what people have to say; just like you, except I'm not "old school" so in actuality I have no fucking idea what I'm talking about. Well, "fuck you" to all of you who think you're better than me. I am sorry that I was in diapers when Minor Threat played. So don't tell me how long you've been involved 'cuz I don't give a shit!! I only care that you're getting the same things out of this that I am.

Jennifer Eisele/Filter Fanzine

Mykel Board...MRR Columnist

When Ian MacKaye, wrote the song for MINOR THREAT he was responding to the overuse of drugs and alcohol he saw around him. It was a personal response, not meant to dictate. That was just coming out of a time of tolerance. Unfortunately, the ideas in that song, combined with the tenor of the times and Nancy Reagan, became the foundation for a new intolerance. The message of "avoid constant overindulgence - know your limits" became "Just say no."

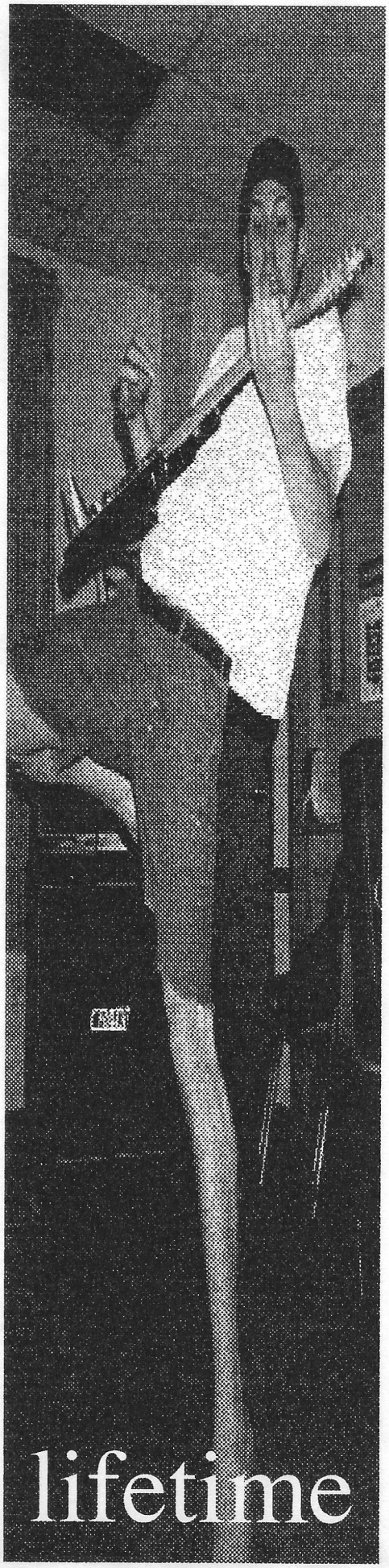
No straight edge is a totalitarian movement of (mostly young frightened) people who are afraid to explore the full range of human experience. It's a movement based on fear. On one hand it's the fear of getting caught doing something illegal. On the other hand, it's the fear common to all explorations of the unknown.

Alcohol, drugs and sex are new and frightening experiences. If you build an ideology that says you mustn't explore them, then you never have to face that fear.

Mykel Board, PO BOX 137, Prince Street Station, New York, NY 10012

Kevin Roberts...Hardcore Kid

Before I get into the topic "What does straight means to me" I want to tell you a little about myself. I became straight-edge about a year and half ago. I looked at it as a way to get away from the bogus shit that was going around in my life. For starters dude, my mom smokes the apathetic herb, my dad has his fucking nose stuck in bottle, and they both are chain smokers. I'm sick of them both. I felt like just walking away and never looking back But that's when I found out about straight-edge. It was a way I could define myself and make a difference. To me, it was making a



statement. I put "XXX" all over everything (I still do). I got a couple of tattoos and I got into hardcore. I first listened to Gorilla Biscuits, Minor Threat, Frail, and Lifetime. Then this year I became vegetarian because I went to the animal rights meeting and almost got fucking sick from what I learned. I'm gonna vegan soon.

I'm in tenth grade.

Now I hear people saying that straight-edge is a fad and it means nothing. I hate that. People who know absolutely nothing from the start are talking shit. I think that straight-edge is something you take to heart. If are gonna do it do it right. I think that there is no 50% only 100%. You should do everything to separate yourself from the apathy and look toward the good in all. If you become straight-edge, don't do it to hop on the bandwagon, do it because you care, do it because you believe. You can make your life memorable, make people say, "He never gave into the corruption around him." He stayed straight an never let go.

Also help hardcore in anyway possible, go to shows, buy zines, don't just listen to the music, hear the music, don't just hear the music, listen to it!!! That's about it.

Kevin J. Roberts,1117 Clark Rd., Wyndmoore, PA. 19118

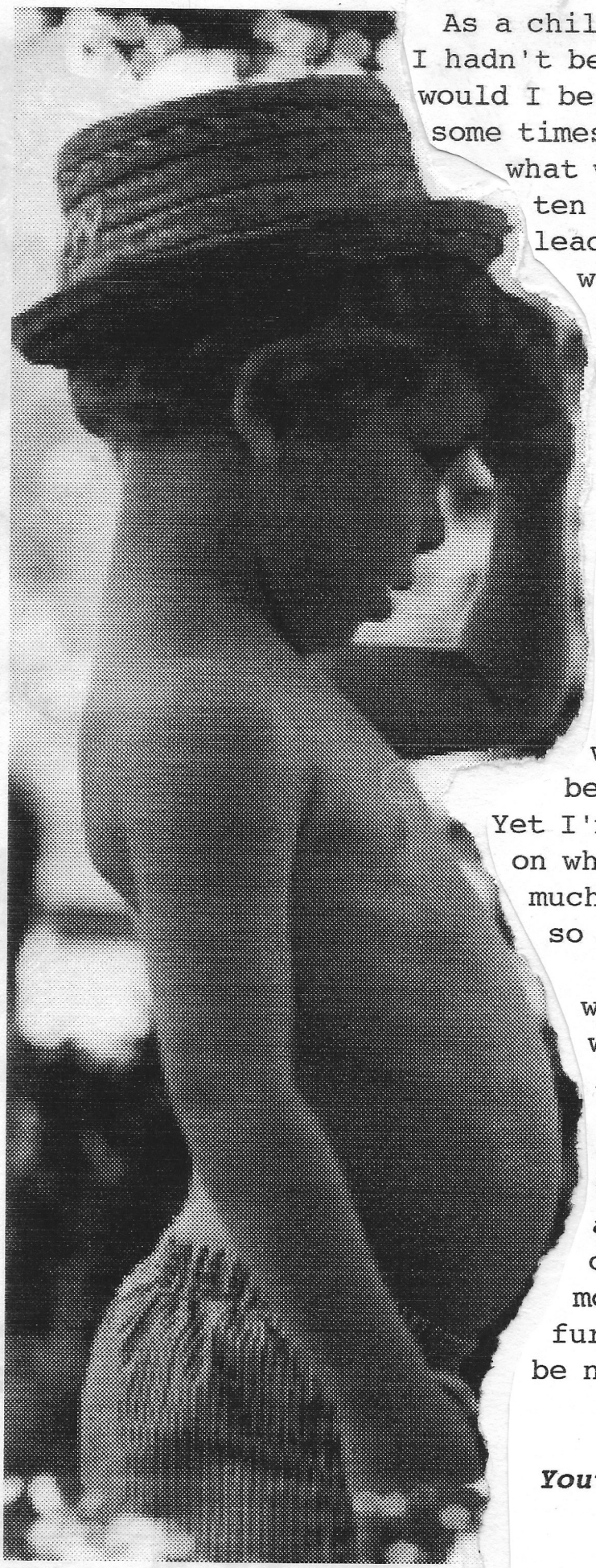
Ari Katz

Straight-edge means that I don't drink or do drugs. Boring huh?

Positive Kim (Victory Record's Secretary)

1. Can a kid be straight-edge twice? Yes.
2. Straight-edge? It's all about doing things for the kids

XXX

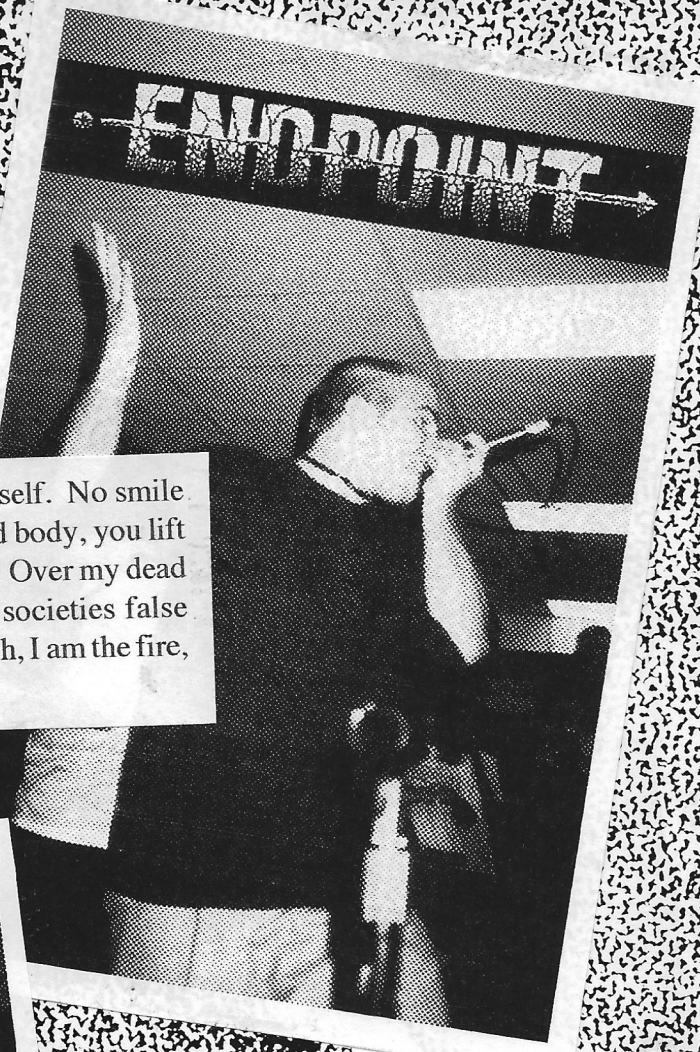


As a child I'd sometimes wonder.. What if I hadn't been born. Where would I be, what would I be doing. We all question life. I some times wonder now, where would I be or what would I be doing if I hadn't gotten into hardcore. Would I still be leading my past and destructive life, would I just fall into the great ranks of our modern day man, drone to grow up get 9 to 5 jobs, live in fear of poverty and then die. Why must we be forced to live like this? hardcore has drawn me away from such fears. Like a shield or a suit of armor I'm protected from such. I shouldn't need such protection within the hardcore scene. I shouldn't have to be critIcized for what I do, because I know what I do is right wether it be being a vegetarian or straightedge. Yet I'm still confronted and questioned on why my music, or what I do means so much to me. If you only knew. And so at that, you'll never understand. As we then continue to grow up, we loose our dreams, imagination, we become more critical and more ignorant. We've shed our play clothes and now live in our work clothes. My dad would always tell me - Theres a time to play, and theres a time to work. As a child that statement had seemed more valid than it does now... and further down the road - there will be no time to play.

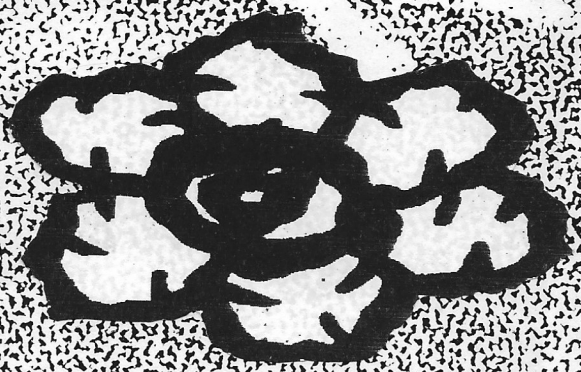
- jon

XXX

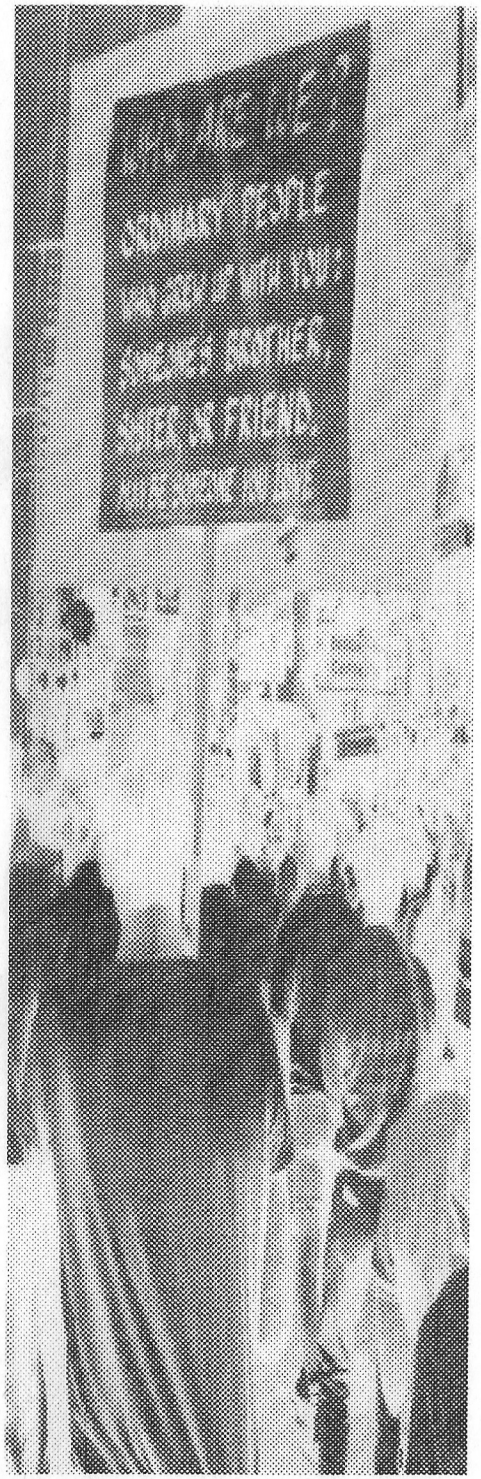
Youth comes but once in a lifetime.
Longfellow - *Hyperion*



FORCE FED Over my dead body, you force yourself. No smile on your face. Just an apathetic stare. Over my dead body, you lift yourself. From a lonely world, where might is king. Over my dead body, you stake your claim. Your titles held by societies false need. I am not what you see, I am not what you touch, I am the fire, beneath this machine. I am the fire.



Go fish. What does it mean to you? Just a card game for fun? Well, it's a black-and-white movie about lesbianism, written, acted, and directed by lesbians. Although there was no complex, action-packed plot, the simplistic wittiness of the movie portrayed the lives of lesbians as something so "normal." They lived in apartments with roommates, worked jobs like teaching and at the Gap, and talked about who was attractive to them, just as any person could or would. There was one part in the movie, however, that challenged the "nor mality" of one lesbian's life. She went home to visit her mother who had heard about her lifestyle. Aside from being kicked out for her sexual preference, the girl completely lost ties with her family.



Now, why does this happen?! Because of traditional, conforming ideas that society ingrains into our minds. We are either not exposed to homosexuality at all, or taught that it is something wrong. Just look at our sex education in schools. No one brings up and acknowledges homosexuality as if it were a big sin to. And when it does come up, it's through jokes and in ways that mock the idea of it. Times have been and are constantly changing. We are the ones who have bred this intolerance, but we can change it. Through exposure first, then education and true open-minded acceptance, existing myths and stereotypes of homosexuality can and will be dispelled. Then maybe we'll be able to understand that all love is beautiful. Go fish. What a befitting name for a movie about a quest for love and happiness. After all, the sea of life is filled with fishes for all peoples. So what does it matter, what kind of fish it is, just as long as you're happy once you've found the fish for you.

Judy Hsin-Tien Chao

Welcome to the SIMPLISTIC RHETORIC CORNER.
Your instructor in the class of pseudo-awareness: SCRATCH.
Today's topic: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

When discussing the idea of capital punishment, we are discussing the notion of whether society has the right to take the life of one who has actively chosen to disregard and break its highest law (and to put it in a simple terminology that both you religious folk and secular folk can equally understand...)- thou shalt not kill. But, before we can draw any conclusions about this question we must first address the idea of law. Do laws need to exist? If so, what laws should we create? And, are the existing laws just? I'll try to address each question as briefly as possible.

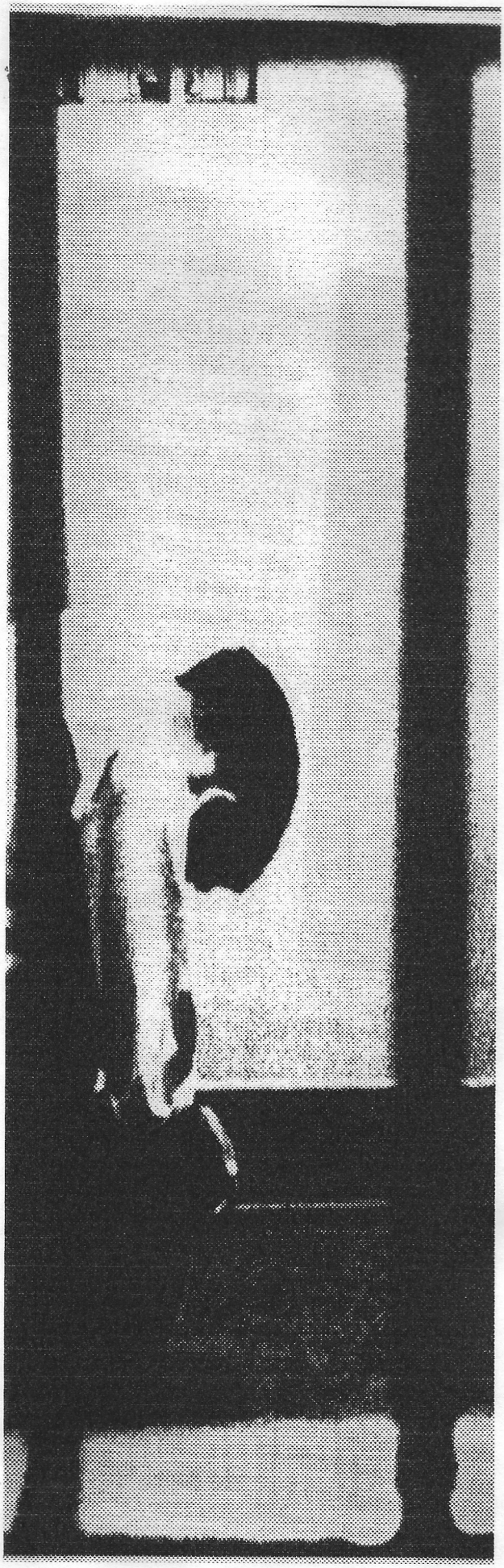
First, do laws need to exist? The answer to this question depends on who you ask. I lean heavily toward Anarchist thought which claims that laws are, in themselves, repressive and contrary to human nature. A basic tenet of anarchist thought concerning social conduct is this- I shall do what i wish to do as long as my actions do not infringe upon the rights of others and, hopefully, everyone else will act as thus also. (Basically do onto others as you would have them do unto you. This is why anarchists feel that laws are repressive in part.) If everyone held this philosophy as a principle of conduct, laws would have no place existing. Unfortunately, not everyone holds this needed , basic respect for other people and their rights...this is where the idea of law comes in. John Locke believed that in a society, people set up law as an impartial judge, in order to attend to matters of common interest. This structure is established by a social contract agreed upon by the members of the group. Limitations on each individuals freedoms are conditional and revocable in Lockes theory. (quick note, Locke wrote in the period of history known as the Enlightenment. Central to Enlightenment political theory was the notion of a contract in which people traded some of their liberty for a measure of security.) So, when a group of individuals comes together to form a society they surrender a part of their freedoms to self-imposed laws which are the result of the general will. Individuals must decide how their own personal morality (which is based on many things: philosophy, family beliefs, culture, tradition, religion, etc.) fits into the collective, social morality- what is considered right and wrong within a society. It is a rational notion that we, as members of a society, must draw a firm line as to what is and is not acceptable behavior, what is and is not moral if we are to live together peacefully.

Second, if laws need to exist, what laws should we create? Again, the answer lies in who the question is asked to. Any law that is considered should be a specific principle that benefits the community but, it is desirable that this is not done at the expense of the individual. Personal prejudices and religious belief should not, in my opinion, be the basis for any law. Personal morality based on religious beliefs or spiritual beliefs are wonderful. It can be an excellent guide for living one's own life. It is, however, a terrible foundation for deciding who does and does not deserve to be punished or jailed. Not everyone shares the same religious convictions and so not everyone should be subjugated to any specific religion and its doctrines on behavior. Laws should be principles that reflect the general belief of the widest amount of people possible who must obey them. Laws should be universally agreed on and accepted by consent from the population affected by the laws not by the coercion of a few and their self-interests. (i.e. politicians.) Actions like drug use, prostitution, jaywalking, pornography, homosexuality, and various others, are mainly consensual crimes and when committed by consenting adults should not be punishable by any law since no innocent, in other words, non-consenting adults, is involved. Most of the mentioned activities are presently outlawed because various people of religious persuasion have deemed such actions wrong, immoral, against 'gods' laws and have influenced legislation creating laws against such actions. This is an example of the personal morality of a few becoming the forced law restricting the many. Now, two actions i assume will be opposed to would be murder and rape. Both are intolerable offenses to individual freedom and too the collective good. Such actions should be abolished (duh!) for society to work efficiently. (Anarchists generally agree that anti-social crime meaning anything that oppresses, robs or does violence to anyone must be vigorously opposed.) Self-determination and personal freedom are important to anyone who believes in and values autonomy and a free society. Murder is THE greatest infringement on another's freedom. In the act of murder, you destroy everything a person was and everything a person could have been. Murder is the negation of everything that consists of Anarchism. (This is why i fail to understand how people

incorporate violence into any form of anarchist thought.) This is a universal wrong, an absolute truth we can all agree on. Murder is a moral crime. (If you believe other wise than your a fucking psycho.) Consensual crimes are not. So, laws must restrict the violation of one persons freedom by another. (Crimes with VICTIMS.)

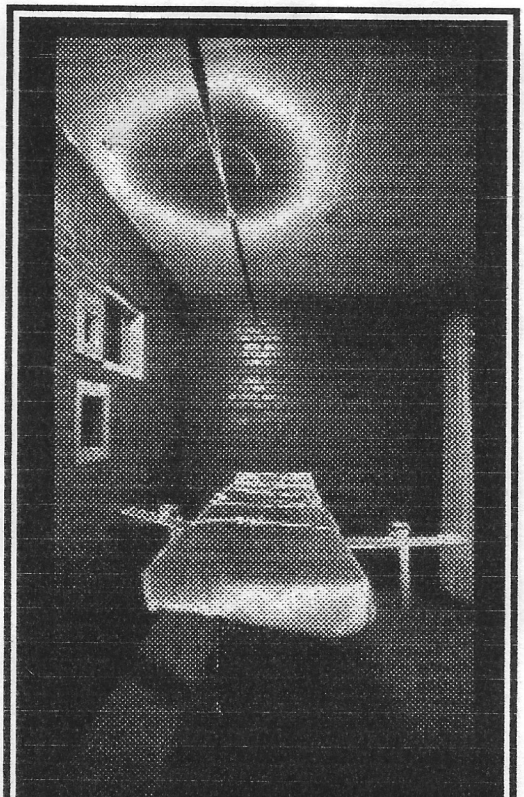
Third, are the existing laws just? Simply put, no. Today, rapists and murders serve far less time for their crimes than do drug dealers, prostitutes, etc. The average sentence at u.s. district courts for first degree murder was 12.8 years. For drug related statutes- 20.4 years. Also, the drug arrests have mandatory sentences, they MUST serve out their time while murders have no mandatory sentences and can be paroled at any time. In some states (Connecticut for example) if you sell someone drugs (who purchases the substance WILLINGLY) and that person uses the drugs brought from you (again WILLINGLY) and that person dies from said drug use, you may be put to death. A punishment that certainly does not fit the so-called crime. (If you do feel this is a suitable punishment, imagine someone buying drano and committing suicide with it. Would it be reasonable to put the entire corporation that manufactures drano to death or just those in the store that sold the bottle of drano to the man?) When someone sells drugs and someone else buys drugs, no one is hurt except , maybe, the party whose part in the transaction was the buying and that's that persons business entirely. So why should anyone be punished? Now if i murder or rape someone the situation becomes something entirely different. Here, i have broken the 'social contract' i as an individual have agreed upon with others to live within society. I have infringed upon someone else's rights. I have committed a real crime deserving punishment. There is an innocent victim involved and society is obligated to correct my actions if i am found to be reasonable. But, given the present court and prison situation, I'm sure to get far less than i deserve in the way of punishment. This is because the 'justice' system is spending far more time persecuting 'crimes' that have NO victims and less time persecuting crimes involving VICTIMS. It has become more socially unacceptable to sell drugs (Unless your in the alcohol, medical or tobacco industries) than it is to kill, rape or molest someone when you view the actions of those that enforce our laws. The reformation of certain laws and the outright elimination of other laws is needed if we are to make our society a fair one again.

Finally, after weighing all of my previous ranting, does society have the right to take the life of one who has actively chosen to disregard and break its highest laws? Theoretically, i would say yes. When one agrees on the 'contract' (I'm assuming that you, the reader, have for whatever reason), the rules of said society and has used that society for his/her advancement/benefit than one must be willing to accept said societies judgements concerning said individuals actions. So, (Again in theory)



society can collectively decide that by taking another persons life, your act of murder has made your existence invalid. (Another quick theoretical point, in the vain of Kantian thought, being the principle of equality, that is, the principle of not treating one side more favorably than the other. Now, a person has murdered another, should we not repay the murder in kind for undeserved evil s/he has inflicted upon his/her victim? Even under the most miserable conditions, there is no sameness between the death of one and the remaining alive of another. The punishment should be EQUAL in accordance to the crime. < Sadly, a rare occurrence in our judicial system>). Capital punishment can then be administered to redress the 'crime of all crimes'. (Granted, it isn't a very enlightened act in a so-called 'christian' nation.)

Now, i agree to capital punishment in theory...in action it is an unacceptable practice. It is a practice used mainly against the lower and poor classes. (Since they or shall i say we cannot adequately defend themselves in court. 'Justice' is only served if you can afford it.) Blacks are disapportionatly sentenced to the death penalty as a sentence for crime than whites. Also, capital punishment has been a tool to silence political dissidents and demonstrate what types of thought that are not acceptable by the 'status quo'. And, since we're on the topic, lets not forget the fact that innocent people have and can be sent to death, If we let ANYONE lose her or his freedom without just cause, we have ALL lost our freedom. Yes, society must mark its disapproval of the breaking of its (our) laws by a punishment proportionate to the gravity



Sociological research has provided some evidence that bears on this con troversy. The justificationofthedeath penalty as a fomm of retribution, of course, is a matter of moral judgment rather than factual truth—no scientist can demonstrate that killing a serious offender is right or wrong in terms of retribution. But sociological re search has demonstrated that capital punishment has only limited value as a deterrent to serious crime. For example, studies have shown that the presence of the death penalty in some states has not resulted in lower homi cide rates. Homicide rates do appear to decline somewhat in the month following a widely publicized execu tion, but this does not appear to be a very powerful effect (Stack, 1987). Finally, many societies that have no capital punishment have lower homi cide rates than the United States (Sutherland & Cressey, 1978: 342 345).

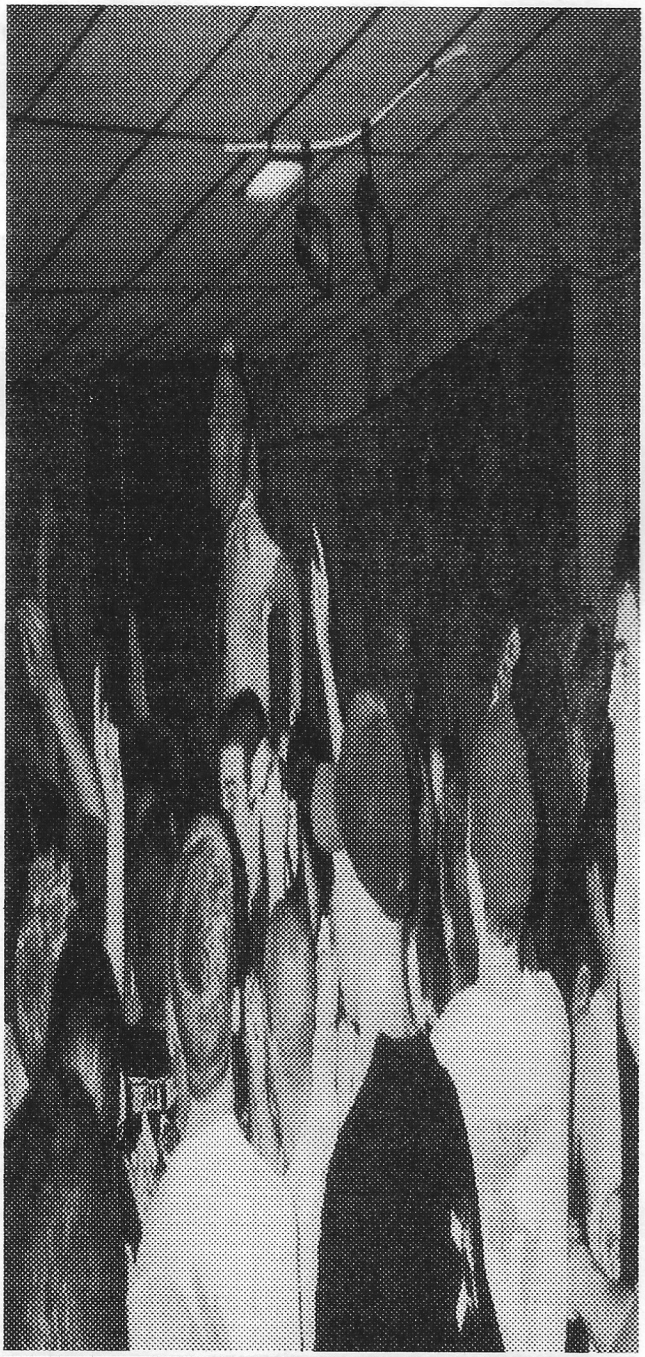
of the offense but the death penalty is not a viable option to use. To be blunt, i do not trust the mechanics of 'law' and i despise the machine we call government. Look at the politicians screaming for blood. Are those the type of people you want to see wielding the power to choose life or death considering the history of their (ab)use of the power we have already granted them? Fuck, the new crime bill has already extended the death penalty to more than 50 additional crimes.) Power, as the saying goes and as our 'leaders' have demonstrated, tends to corrupt but absolute power corrupts absolutely. I do not believe in murder and i refuse to sponsor state murder. (and, once again for the religiously 'tainted', in the 2,500 years covered in the Old Testament what was the one important lesson God learned? Give up? Suppression doesn't work. God- the creator of heaven, earth and the universe- who had, we must presume, more power than any law enforcement agency to have ever existed on our fair planet, after demonstrating his/her/its powers of destruction time and time again in ways that are more graphic than any imagination, could NOT GET HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE TO OBEY HIS LAWS. Is it not arrogant and SINFUL to assume that we, the 'creations', could fare any better where the 'creator' has failed?) I cannot lend myself to become the thing i despise just so that 'justice' (retribution) can be served. We, as a society, must find other ways of dealing with the murders and the rapists that are an ever present problem than by assuming the "eye for an eye' philosophy. As a famous button pronounces, " why do we kill people who kill people to show that killing people is wrong?"

So here I am, at a cool hardcore show. I'm having a good time. But some of these people strike me as odd because I can't distinguish them from the jock prep kids I went to high school with. They're all so dressed up for the occasion. Pretty V-Neck sweaters, nicely combed hair, and pretty Polo shirts.

Here's something else that's funny. Vegan Power shirts. Ha ha. I like to go to shows and meet people. Tell me, who are you going to meet, Mr. Vegan Power ? Vegan Power. Hee hee ha ha. Hey, there's Joe hard ass. What's up, Joe? Looking pretty snazzy in your tough hardcore stance while you mosh. I want to dance so much, now that I see that you're here. "That's a cool Gorilla Biscuits shirt," I say. "Oh yeah ?" he says, "I got it at their last show, when you were about ten. I'll sell it to ya... you got ten bucks?" You're the man, dickhead. Thank you for being here, because without you, I wouldn't have so much to laugh about.

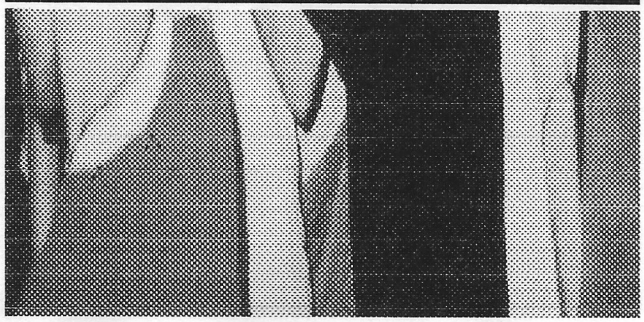
Let me ask some questions if I could. Do you love hardcore? Are you done supporting hardcore now that you left the show? The songs you sing... do the words mean anything to you? Do you know about what you're singing? Are you crying out Holyname? Are you pointing and screaming to keep the drum beat? Can I join your cool click? Gee, you know all the top names in hardcore !! Maybe someday you'll have your own!! I have a name for you, how does "ASSWIPE" sound ? Can I put you down as a soon-to-be dropout? Are you going to leave this soon? All the things you've done? All the shows you put on? The letters and articles you wrote? Yeah, right. You're just part of the virus destroying hardcore, and I hope you're happy. Fuck you.

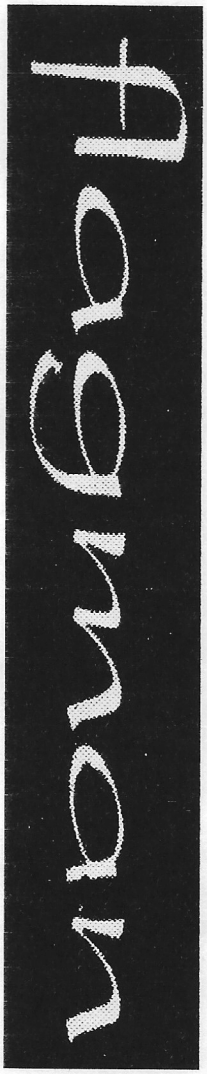
- Dominic

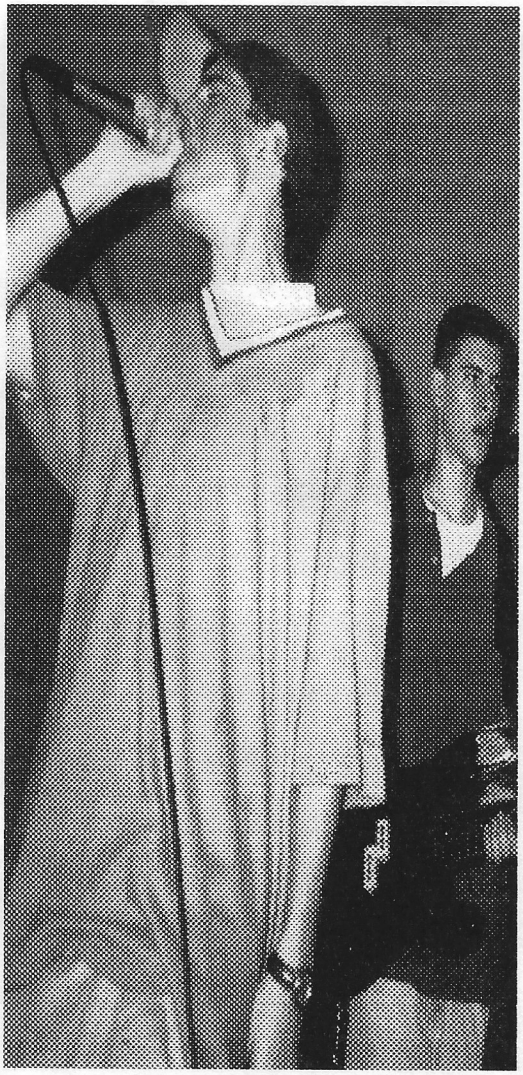


mouthpiece

what was said







Hardcore use to be fun.
It use to be about going to shows and getting the shit beat out of you and beating the shit out of other people and stagedives and singalongs and fingerpoints.
It's not like that anymore.
It's about nice clothes, sitting on the floor, crybabies, and ego trips.
Is this fun?
I didn't think so.
So there. We were a band that had fun and we just want you to know that.
Thank you.

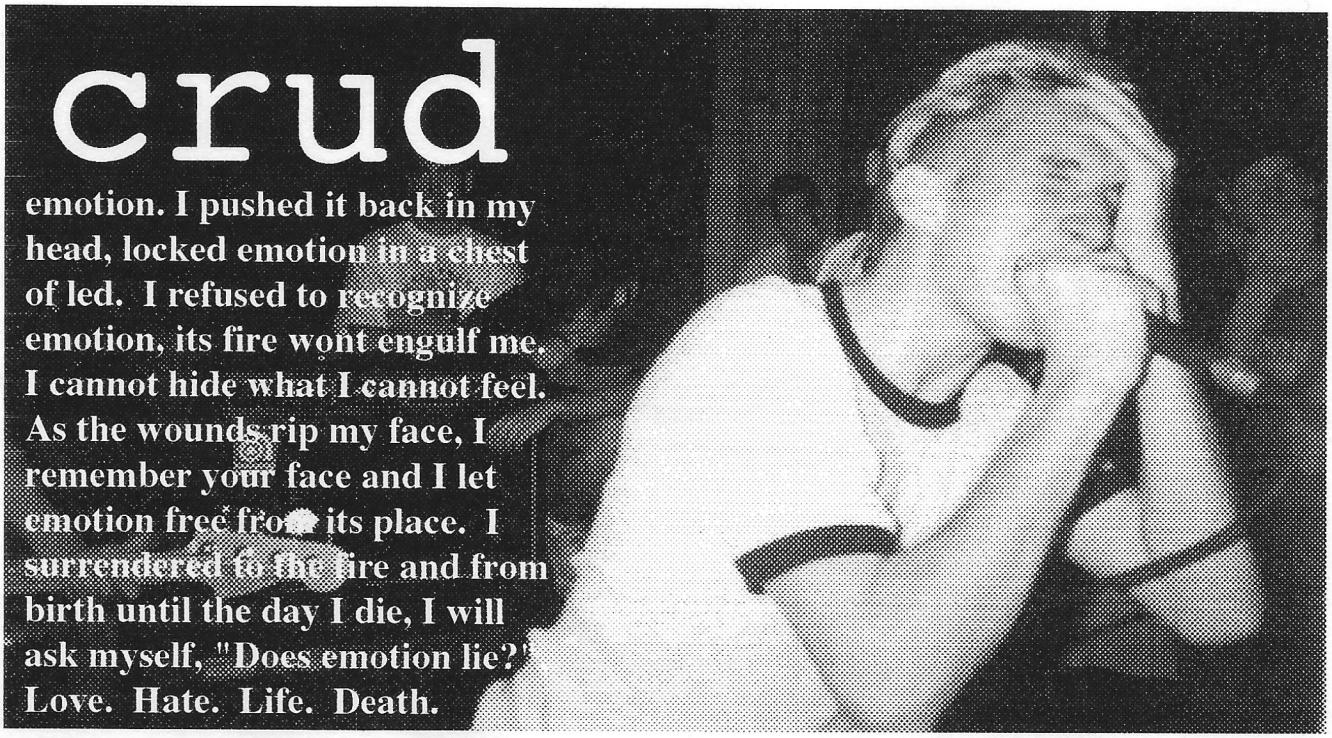
- Sean McCabe

Correspondence
1335 Rodman Street
Philadelphia, PA
19013

crud was a cult
august 15th, 1992 - august 14th 1994

crud

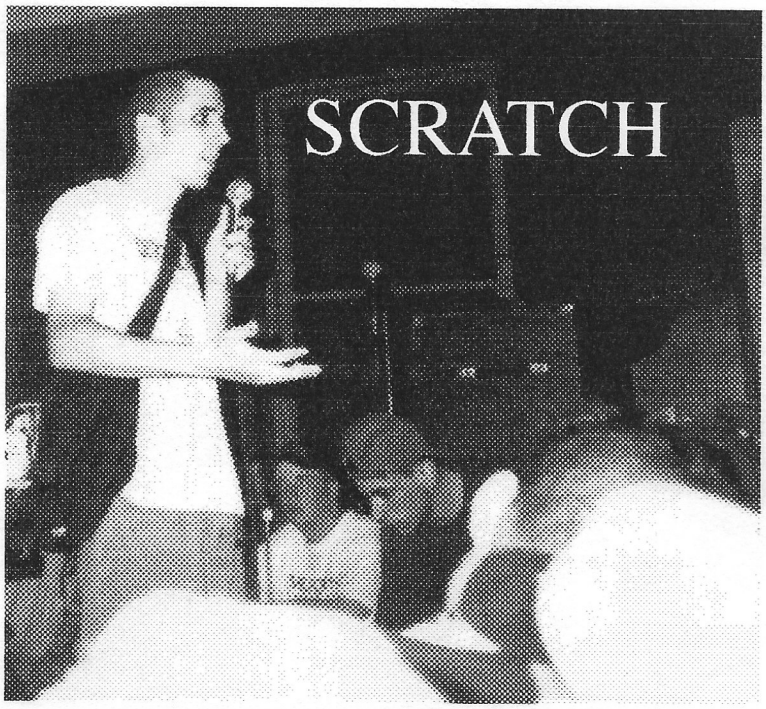
emotion. I pushed it back in my head, locked emotion in a chest of led. I refused to recognize emotion, its fire wont engulf me. I cannot hide what I cannot feel. As the wounds rip my face, I remember your face and I let emotion free from its place. I surrendered to the fire and from birth until the day I die, I will ask myself, "Does emotion lie?" Love. Hate. Life. Death.



April 27, 1994

I'm sitting in a cemetery, under the cool shade of a tree as I write this. I'm enjoying the day as beautiful as it has been. It's peaceful sitting here. All the noise i have to deal with is a varying number of bird songs. I've been walking around for the last three hours in search of a job. (Hire me, I'll be a beautiful servant who can hide his contempt behind shiny eyes. Wage slavery is not a constructive usage of my time.) Sitting here i can feel my leg muscles sigh their relief, slowly easing from the tension of movement. I'm looking around at the different headstones i see, they stretch off for acres. I can clearly feel my heart and the blood is steadily pumping through my veins. I'm very much alive but i 'm not really thinking about that. I'm thinking about death. I only have so much life before the worms get to eat what they can. No amount of experience , no matter what i do or do not eat, no amount of anything will stop me from joining the fertilizer that helps keep the grass I sit on so green. Damn, in my twenty years of life, i've wasted a precious amount of time. Better yet, I've wasted a precious amount of life. Time is only a mechanism of human invention to measure our passing lives, it is an abstract concept. Life, however, is a very tangible concept. It is a force of tremendous power. It moves us to do all the things we attempt. It separates us from the inanimate. It's pushing the pen. It's the great motivator and one day it will be all gone. I'll cease to exist save as a memory in the minds and hearts of my friends and family. (I'll become an abstract concept myself, in a way. Gee.)

I wonder how death feels. It is said that the two greatest experiences in life is first, your birth and then, secondly, your death. I wonder if I want to be wide awake as I die, to feel my life dreaming away. It would be interesting to say the least. I wonder what happens after you die. Is there life after death? It remains one of the greatest questions asked by the living. If there is, the dead do no talking and the living will never truly know until they join those who have died before them in the grave. It would answer the hundreds of questions an agnostic like me possesses. Either there is some form of transcendence and death is just a doorway into another existence or it is the decisive end of everything you were in life. Regardless of the final truth behind the mystery we call death, I don't fear what the outcome may be either way. (Although, being the inquisitive human being I am, who loves to learn, I can see the attraction of life after death. It would be like a child in a newly built playground ... a whole new place to explore.)



Anyway, I don't exactly care to know the particular sensation of death at present. I still possess a long life ahead of me. (I hope) I can appreciate the beauty of the trees around me. I can enjoy the chirping of the birds around me. I can enjoy the cool breeze blowing across my face, pleasantly cooling my sweat. I can still affect the world around me with my words and actions. I still AM. I still have aspirations to follow and endeavors to attempt. I hope to grow old. When I die, I want to do so contently. I only hope I don't take for granted a moment of my life because I'm aware that all of this will end one day. I want to enjoy life. I'm happy to say that, at present, I do. (I hear my pessimism screaming in my ear, "For now maybe, just give it a few hours." Fuck you. Shut up.)

FOUR WALLS FALLING

This interview was done with Taylor Steele of Four Walls Falling by Ryan Tozzi at Middlesex County College. Cool.

Ryan: Why did you decide to do the record with Understand?

Taylor: Basically we wanted to record an album, and we want to do it ourselves as much as possible. So we know it's going to take money which we don't have, so we needed to put out a seven inch to try…I know this sounds bad, but to try to make money so we can put out an album. So we can use the money to put out an album . It's not like so we can make money to pay rent and stuff. All the money that we make off that seven inch is going to record for an album. We want to do it right. I mean whether the songs are good songs are not on the record I guess it's up to whoever listens to it and what they like, but we're not happy with the recordings of any of our records. We want to fuckin' be able to go to a studio, stay there as long as we want, go and come back until it's exactly what we want to do. We don't want to be like, "We don't have any money left" you know? We want to at least have enough money where we can record a record that we like. So that's why we've been saving up money and stuff, so we can pay for it because the only way you can really do things the way you want them done is if you do them yourself and you use your own money.

Ryan: So what do you think of them (Understand) selling the seven inch for five dollars?

Taylor: I don't like that. It wasn't supposed to come out in the U.S. because all of those songs are going to be rerecorded and put on an album. It's going to be those three songs and seven new songs.

Ryan: Do you know what label that's coming out on?

Taylor: Yeah. Day After. They're taking care of the pressing and all that, and we're paying for the actual recording and mastering.

Ryan: I noticed on the seven inch that your style seemed to have changed and gotten slower and more metallish. Was this a conscious change?

Taylor: No, we just write something and if we like the way it sounds we play it, you know? I mean some of the new stuff that we just wrote…we have some new stuff that someone said sounded like Rorshach that we don't have ready to play yet. We have another new song someone said sounded like a cross between Fugazi and Metallica. So I don't know. We were in Europe and people were telling me we sounded like everything from Rage Against the Machine to the Sex Pistols, so I was like ," Uh…okay."

Ryan: When I first heard the song "Punish" it reminded me of Rage Against the Machine...

Taylor: Yeah, basically we hadn't even heard them. I still only heard two songs by them.

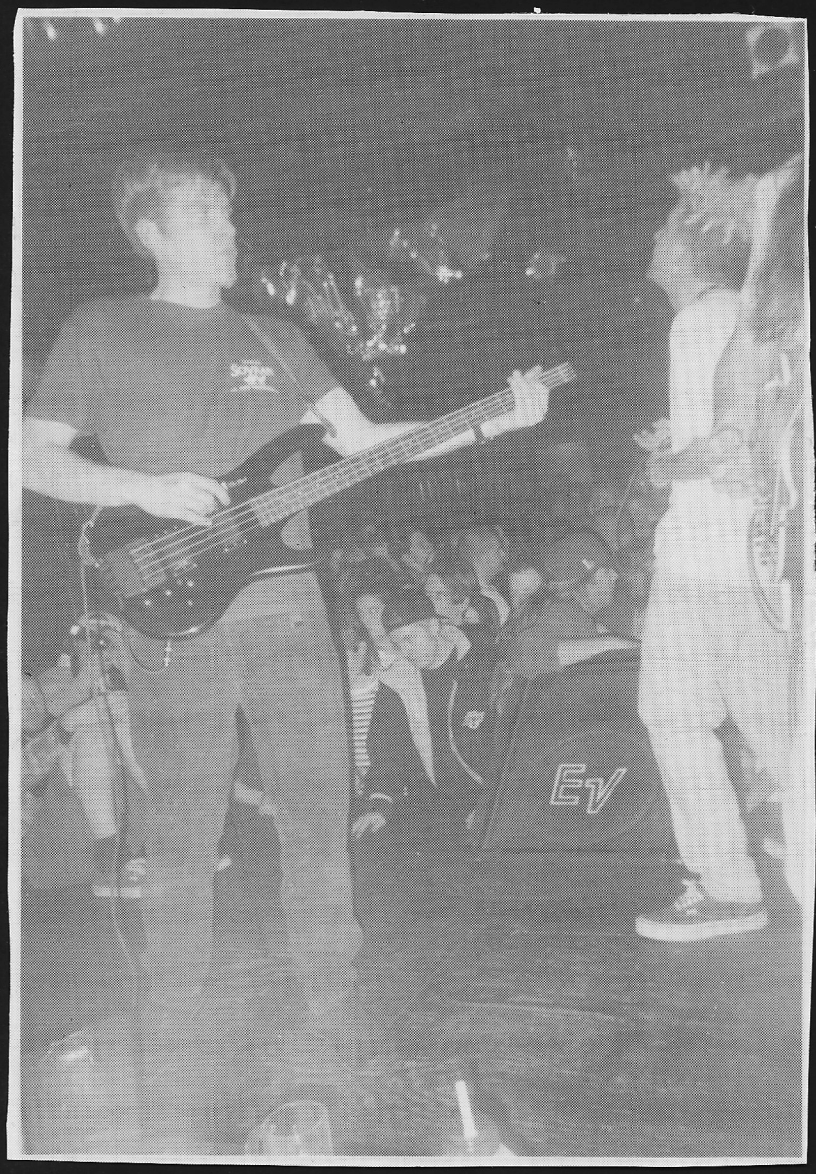
Ryan: I heard that you guys were shopping your demo around to bigger labels. Is this true?

Taylor: No, what we did was send off like one hundred

cheesy ass promo packs. I don't know how many were to major labels. We just wanted to see what kind of response we got and see if people... I mean, because personally, this sounds really stupid, but we know major labels are bad, but basically we don't know why, you know what I'm saying? We didn't know why. We wanted to find out for ourselves. Everyone's saying major labels are bad, but no one is ever saying why. I mean okay, so maybe some fucked up corporation owns them and that's understandable why they're bad, but what else do they do? (isn't that enough?-ed) So now we know about major labels and it's not that we wanted to sign with them before, we just wanted to know exactly what it was...

Ryan: Did any of them respond positively?

Taylor: No. We didn't think any of them would. We weren't sending it out thinking people are going to like us.



There's no way they could market us. We put in there what we wanted control over, so we knew basically when we put that we wanted control over anything they weren't going to want us.

Ryan: From the song "Punish" you seem to have an anti-voting stance...

Taylor: It's not so much anti-voting, it's like being disenchanted with the whole voting process in the United States. It's like we're voting for someone to vote for someone to vote for someone...and by the time they vote for the issue we have no say. Even as a group of people we have no say. It's who has the power, who has the money. That's who decides, you know what I'm saying? So I feel like with voting basically it's something good to do as long as you know who you're voting for. Well let me change it this way...how do I say this...voting for the lesser of two evils, I mean you're not really going to accomplish anything, you know? So if you don't want to vote, that's understandable, but then again if you're voting for the lesser of two evils, that's understandable too. It's just how you want to approach it.

Ryan: Do you see any other way besides voting to make your voice heard by the government?

Taylor: That's the thing. I don't think your voice is heard through voting. Not least the way voting is set up here in the United States.

Ryan: Do you see an alternative to that?

Taylor: Do I see an alternative that will be used, or onethat will work? I mean I don't know, maybe voting on the issues. I mean people have to get more conscious about the issues and not about candidates because basically the whole voting process is voting for whatever candidate fits the image of what you think looks cool. As far as I'm concerned, neither one of the candidates, the big candidates or three or whatever, three candidates looked cool to me. Of course I don't run around in business suits or anything so of course they don't look cool to me, but to a lot of people they will convey some sort of image that they like and they will vote for image, you know? That kind of thing. I mean people aren't even concerned with political views. Maybe if they were given a choice to vote politically, then they

would. But they're not given a choice. Maybe is. I don't know how that would work.

Ryan: More of a singular issue kind of thing?

Taylor: Yeah. I don't think that you could vote on every singular issue, but some of the bigger ones you could. I mean maybe you couldn't vote on the basic aspects.

Ryan: Right, because I know if I was old enough to vote and there were two candidates, I would definately support the pro-choice candidate even if there were some things about that candidate that I disagreed with.

Taylor: Yeah. Well I voted for Fellani. Did you hear who she was?

Ryan: No.

Taylor: Well no. It's not going to, and the only time it gets into the media is when they're just barely big enough to actually cause a problem to the Democrat or Republican parties. Then it,s going to be like, "This person is crazy. We need to tell you this so you don't vote for them ." I mean she wasn,t perfect, but I thought that she was better than anyone who was running, so that,s why I voted for her.

Ryan: From the song "Aim" you're obviously pro-choice. What do you think of peolpe who go and bomb clinics in the name of religion?

aylor: Well obviously those people are warped. Personally Maybe I just don't understand the whole concept. I mean I understand the concept of religion from a controlling aspect. A lot of people use religion to control other people. I also understand why people would want to believe in a higher power, whether a higher power exists or not I have no idea, but I can understand because a lot of people don,t have any idea so they look for things. But the whole concept of not being able to prove anything, but somehow having it in your mind that you have all of this proof just because you have a book that says so. What I,m trying to say is that I have no problem with people's personal views. It's when they get so involved with it that they use it against people.

Ryan: The thing I 've noticed is some really religious right wing people totally don't listen to the other side of the argument. They feel like your questioning God or something.

Taylor: Yeah, exactly.

Ryan: You're still straight edge, right?

Taylor: Yeah.

Ryan: Being straight edge and vegan, what do you think of hardline?

Taylor: I don't agree with it. I said in an interview I did with some zine a while back that hardline is good for little sixteen year old, egotistical young boys to play with or something. I don't know…

Ryan: I think it's pathetic.

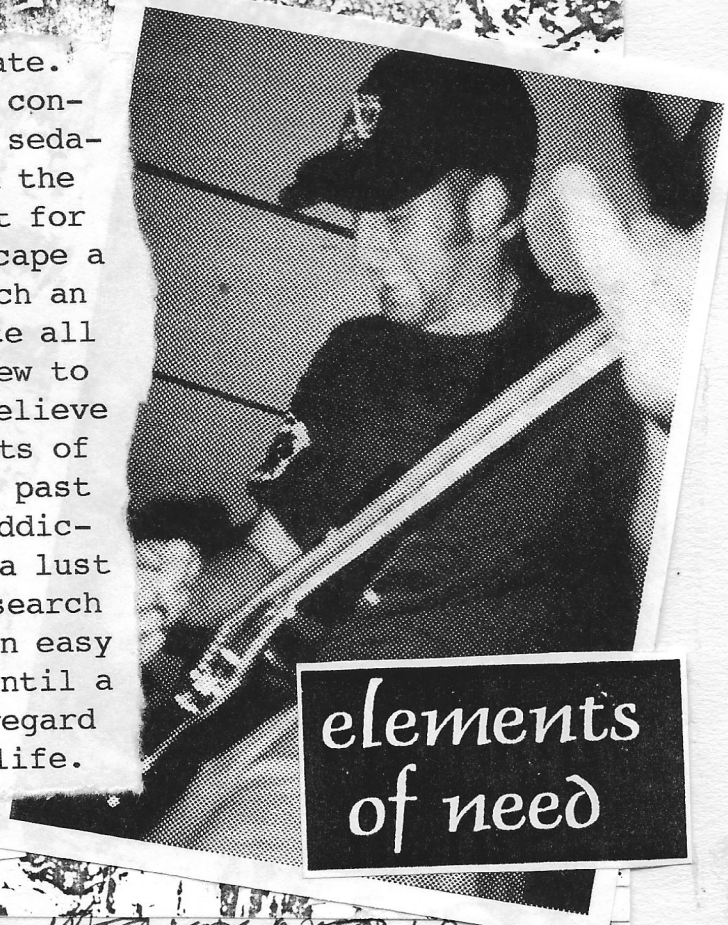
Taylor: It is. I mean when you read all the fucking jargon that goes along with it it's even funny. People who think being vegan is going to solve all of the world's problems are ridiculous. I mean I'm vegan, so of course I think being a vegan is good, but when you base a whole religion on a singular issue then you're doing bad for yourself as well as other people, you know?

Ryan: Lately I've seen people wearing vegan power shirts and stuff. What do you think of them turning a diet into a fashion?

Taylor: It's like everything else. I mean straight-edge, punk rock, everything. Everything gets turned into a fashion. There are just going to be people… I mean plus you've got to consider, I mean this isn't a cut on people who are like fifteen, sixteen or whatever, because everyone is fifteen or sixteen. I mean I remember when I was fifteen and sixteen, I wasn't who I am today. I can't expect fifteen or sixteen year old people who have vegan power shirts to necessarily be into that five years from now. I mean I can go back and look at so many kids who aren't into what they what they were into when they were into what they were into when they were fifteen or sixteen. They're not into straight-edge anymore. They're doing whatever they're doing now. Then there are some kids who are. It's just like people worrying about selling out and all that shit. I mean what the hell, that's stupid. I mean I'm not going to worry about other people selling out. I didn't become straight-edge for other people. I didn't become vegan for other people. It's something I'n doing for myself. I'm not going to like let myself get all fucking pissed off or upset or in a bad mood because some kid I used to know isn't straight-edge anymore. I mean that's their own problem. They will have to deal with that in their own life, and them doing drugs or wahteverwill cause themselves problems. They will have to deal with that themselves.

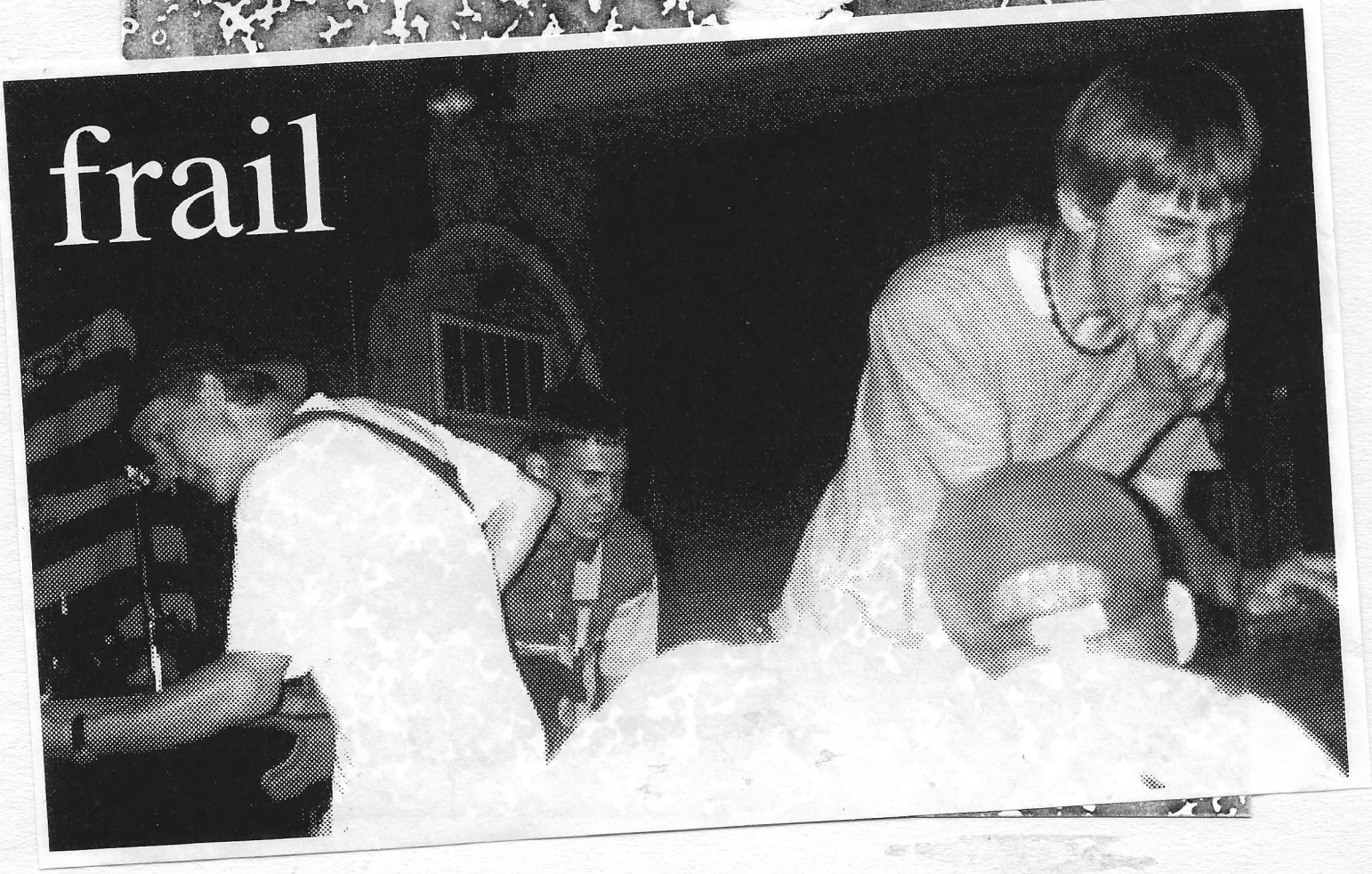
The interview then drifted into discussions about a load of other topics that aren't really worth typing out. We eventually finished this interview outside, as Middlesex was closing. However, before I pressed the stop button on my recorder for the final time, Tim McMouthpiece and some of his cool friends decided to interupt the interview and use my recorder as a tool to tell lame jokes and give shout outs to their friends. Duh. Did these guys graduate from high school yet?

sedate.
this constant sedation the quest for an escape a crutch an opiate all i knew to not relieve haunts of this past an addiction a lust the search for an easy way until a disregard of life.



elements of need

frail



You got something to say? Get up and let people know how you feel. **Vandalism** is the best way to get your thoughts and ideas out to the public. It can be as simple or as difficult as you want. It can also be as expensive or cheap as you want.

The one thing to keep in mind is nothing will get done if you just sit there and think of all these good ideas. You gotta get up and do something. In some cases it won't even cost you a dime. I'm going to discuss a few ways to either let people know what you're thinking or fuck up what others are trying to say to you.

It can be as simple as your basement. Just simply take any empty ketchup bottle or any container with a squeeze top, fill it with leftover house paint, and stick it in your backpack. Go to your least favorite billboard, bus bench or even restaurant (McDonalds, Burger King, etc.) and **squeeze that paint all over everything**. You might want to consider claiming responsibility via an anonymous letter explaining why you did what you did or you could simply write why you did what you did on a piece of sticker paper and stick it close to the scene of your crime. Viola! **Revolution** basement style.

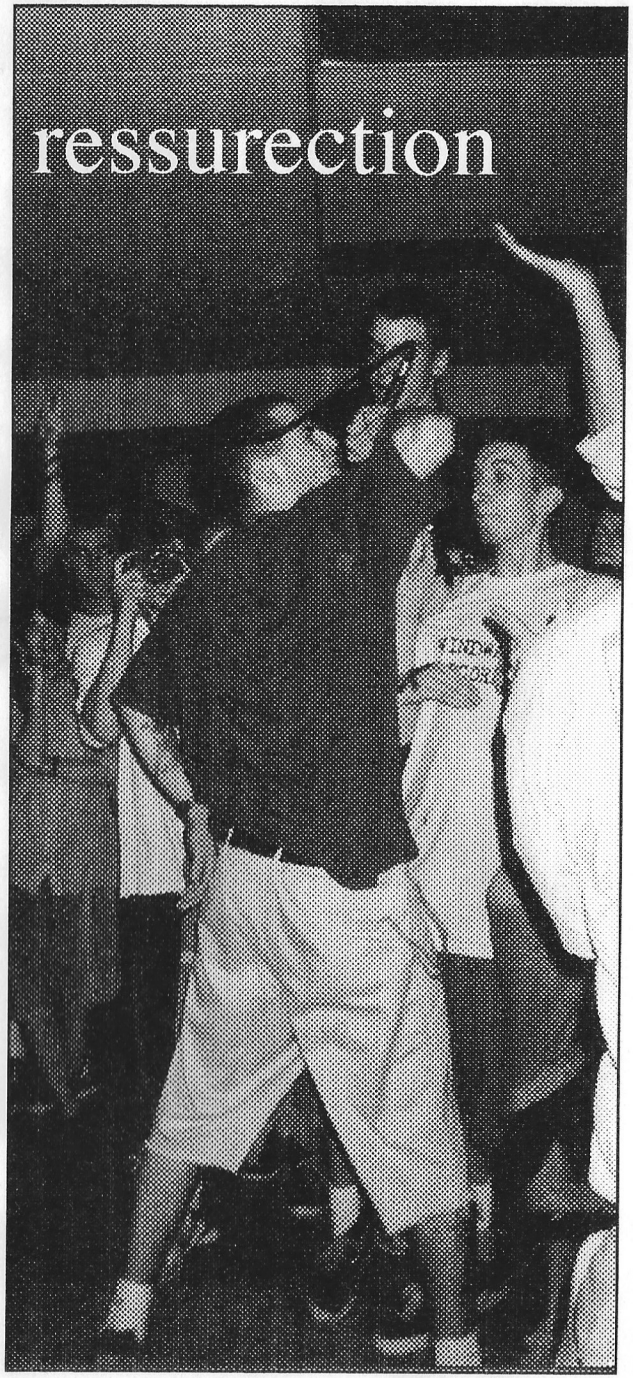
The next section is not as easy but in my opinion will serve the purpose of getting a message across better. Everyone has seen stencils before. Stencils are one of the very best ways to let people know what you think. Well here's a quick way to have 20 to 30 stencils on hand without having to carry a big, jumbled pile of cardboard. Once again, this can be as expensive or cheap as you want. Nearly everyone knows someone who works at Kinko's (if you don't hold on) All you need to do to start your stenciling campaign is to ask your friend at Kinko's to make you a book. You see Kinko's can make spiral notebooks with plastic covers that come in a variety of colors. The colors don't matter and neither does what's inside the book. What matters are those covers. Have your friend make you a book of all covers. Just a book of 20 or 30 plastic pages. This will cost anywhere from $15-$20 if you don't have a friend at Kinko's. Next start drawing rough drafts of what you want your stencil to look like. Make sure you have it planned out pretty well because nothing sucks more than screwing up and having to start over or realizing you misspelled something after you have sprayed your stencil over half the city. Brave, assaulting graphics are the best because they catch peoples attention. Bold lettering, an easily read font generally make for a better stencil as well. When you have gotten your design down, Get a paint pen if the pages are dark, or a marker if the stencil is light colored and draw your design on. Next take an X-acto knife or razor blade and carefully cut out the lettering. Make sure that when you cut out your letters they will still look like letters. Consider whether or not you want the lettering to have holes in the **O**'s, **R**'s, etc. When you're done, stick it in your backpack with some spray paint and go at it. You can usually buy spray paint cheap at places like Bank's or for about $.99-$2.50 anywhere else. It's always good to keep in mind who the target of your stencil Is. For example if your stencil is about the holocaust of animals in this nation, put it in front of McDonalds, Burger King or Wendy's. If your stencil is about destroying corporate america, put it in front of business centers and corporation headquarters. The bottom line is put it where they will see it. Put it where lots of people will see it. Its amazing what you can get away with.

Now if you don't have a friend at Kinko's and you cant afford the stencil book, here's your outline for stenciling. Simply find a 3 ring binder somewhere in your house. Second, cut apart cereal boxes and punch the holes in them. Then just cut the box the same way you did the plastic. The stencils won't last as long but its very economical (you'll still have to buy **spray paint**.)

So there it is. Two relatively easy ways to do some creative vandalism. My only other advice is to get up and do it. All the talk in the world about what's wrong in today's society doesn't mean anything without some action. Action wakes people up to problems. And what's more important, action wakes people up to what you're thinking.

The tobacco and alcohol companies have millions if not billions of dollars to spend on advertising. The result is a continual visual onslaught of rough men smoking cigarettes. Women falling all over men who drink brand---liquor. The youth of america don't have millions of dollars. But we do have ingenuity. Imagination. Drive. It is these things that make it possible to in some way override the media assault we all face. Hit big business where it hurts. Do everything to make sure they're spending some of their millions on undoing your mischief. Let them know you don't want them to continue fucking us, our earth and animals over in the name

of greed and power.



Yeah this is about you. It's about all of your enormous egos. It's all about your indirect determination to throne your self king of hardcore, tearing down anything in your way including: friends, friends, and yourself. It's about you dropping out. It's about you loosing your edge, selling out well call it. It's all about you being too cool for hardcore anymore. It's about you heckling bands. It's about your unending criticism, your "constant ridicule". It's about your wardrobe and rare vinal collection. It's about your "seniority", your old school war stories - your new school bullshit. Your political correctness, your vegan power, your revolution, your firestorm... It's all about your clubs, your clicks, your scenes, you and your friends.

The only person(s) I had in mind when I wrote this was us. All of this bullshit is a product of us. hardcore is about us. So ask me where I'm going with this? I don't believe I have a destination but I sure have direction. Then again maybe I'm just blowing off some steam. I don't plan to stop all of this, hardcore is first what you make of it, then maybe we can try working as a whole.

Listen to me tell you what to do. Like I know what hardcore is. (I do.) Like I can solve all these problems... Well maybe. -JON XXX

Evolution of Rebelliousness
and much talk about myself

By: Vraja Kishor das (108)

Well, when I look back at it. Things seem to fall into place. It all fits together: how I grew up, what I got into, and how it all inclined me towards Krishna consciousness.

Since I was young, I sorta knew that this world wasn't what it was cracked up to be. I think everyone knows that when they're young -- but as we "grow up," we forget (on purpose). I think most kids understand the dim prospects for happiness in the "real" world -- that's why they're so into cartoons, science fiction, etc.

As a kid, I was no exception -- I could clearly see that the external world was rather boring. Having no clue of genuine internal matters, I launched myself to the even more external world of fantasy world. I would walk around the neighborhood in a self-tailored universe -- walking on the moon, or in prehistoric time. . . Later I got really into JRR Token's books.

Then I "grew up." For a long time I was just a regular kid riding the mass production conveyor belt of "education." But when it came around 7th or 8th grade my brain kinda turned on again. I really found it difficult to ignore the fact that the mainstream was not where I wanted to live. I wanted an alternative.

So I got into BMX freestyle (you know, doing all these wild gymnastic tricks on a little bicycle). I was attracted to the subculture of it. It was adolescent, it was rebellious. It was a statement of dissatisfaction and non-cooperation with the norm.

But it wasn't that rebellious. After all, there is only so much philosophy and subculture you can fit on two wheels. So I moved up to four wheels, and got into skateboards. With skaters there was more of an emphasis on the subculture, the anti-mainstream. I was really attracted by that. It came with it's own music, Skate punk. I liked that.

In fact, I liked it so much that I started to get more into the music than the skating. The music seemed to be almost 100% subculture and rebellion. I put down the skateboard and picked up my dad's guitar.

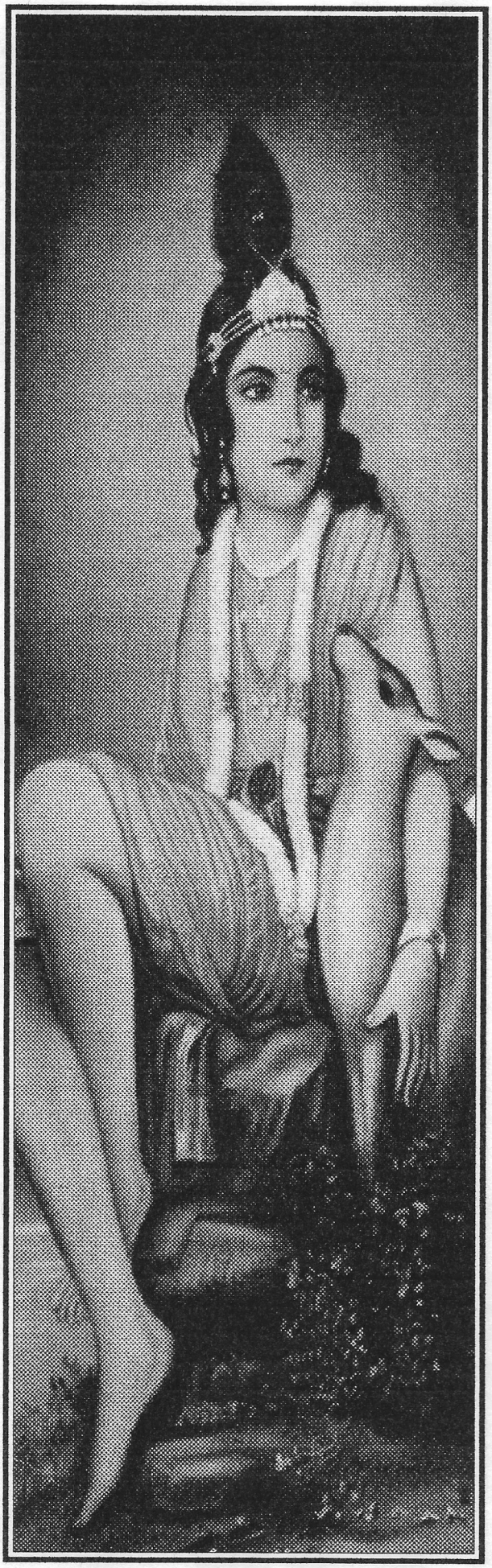
From Skate-punk, I got into hardcore music, because of my highschool friend, Tom Capone. He gave me the Youth of Today "Break down the walls" album. Here was something even more rebellious. Here was a style of music that was dead-set against drinking and drugs and the American-way middle-class lifestyle. I dedicated my heart to it.

Looking back, it seems that my growth was a sort of "evolution of rebelliousness" -- from a general dislike of the "real" world, to a focused premeditated rebellion. Hardcore (especially straightedge) helped me see exactly where I always hated about the mainstream: it was a spineless compromise of truth and morality, for the sake of convenience and prestige.

In '88, vegetarianism hit straightedge in a big way (mainly via Youth of Today, who were more than a little bit influenced by the Hare Krishnas, although I didn't know it at the time). I took to it right away. I new it was light. It. Meat eating epitomized the compromise of morality and truth.

I got into a band with Tom Capone and Kevin Egan. BEYOND was the name. We screamed our heads off about vegetarianism and straightedge. One day, in a record store called Bleeker Bobs, Tom spotted a strange photocopied magazine. "The Razor's Edge."

It was all about Hare Krishna -- which was really mysterious and attractive, and had something to do with the Cro-mags (a favorite band of mine). In fact, when casually reading an old Skateboarding magazine



("Thrasher"), I came across an interview with the Cro-Mags. They said all this tuff stuff I thought was outrageously cool. They talked about the Age of Quarrel, how it was the fourth ages, and the darkest winter of the universe. Bells rang out from JRR Tolken's books. The similarities intrigued me. I read on; they mentioned how people in this age become cruel and demoniac -- which exactly jived with my gut instincts about the loss of morality and truth. I re-read the Razor's Edge. I liked it even more.

The calendar scrolled to '90. I began to see some disturbing things in the straightedge scene. People were giving it up, getting sucked back down the whirlpool of the mainstream. They had acquired some morality, they had acquired some truth -- but they couldn't stick to it. They gave in. They fell down.

That sucked.

I began to notice that I would not be able to keep screaming and stagediving for the rest of my life. How could I escape the same fate?

I got a lot of inspiration from the Bad Brains, the Cro-Mags, and Black Uhuru (a ragga band). They helped me to see spirituality as a more permanent addition to my straightedge rebelliousness. I tried to read my Dad's bible. I took my communion cross put it on a thin leather strip around my neck (I guess I wasn't such an expert vegetarian!). I definitely wasn't into Christianity. I found religion to be another spineless jellyfish kissing up to the materialistic way of life, afraid to scream out the truth, lest their congregation stop donating. They were all so mainstream, consumed in mundane family/social life, mostly hollow ritual without a deep sense of rebellion and spirituality.

In any case, I grew dreadlocks -- to be "spiritual," and to look ugly. I wanted to look ugly. I was sick of the whole superficial boy-girl stuff. I saw sexuality on every billboard, on every TV show, and in every high school kid's notebook -- so I knew it was a main pillar failure and emptiness in life, the strongest under current in the mainstream. I wanted to exit that current.

When Beyond played some shows with Youth of Today, I talked to their singer (Ray) about Hare Krishna. It intrigued me powerfully.

I gravitated towards Krishna consciousness, as more and more of my straightedge friends thinned out. One day, at Beyond practice, our drummer (Alan Cage) said, "You're getting into Krishna consciousness? Alright. . . I do know. . . Well I have this one book, I got it from the Cro-Mags, I'll give you it. I didn't like it."
I couldn't put the book down. I stayed up all night. It made complete sense. I read it all night long (almost, maybe my memory is exaggerating things). Here something against intoxication, against meat-eating, against illicit sex. . . with these cool Chinese looking letters on a page that looked like the letters from JRR Tolken, and all these words from an ancient other worldly language. . . And the philosophy was completely sensible. I mean it was completely sensible. I had never encountered anything which dealt with the

topic of spirituality that talked with such clarity and forceful assurance, and technical, exacting detail.

More importantly, here was a lifelong rebellion. More than lifelong. The people rejected mainstream food, mainstream eating utensils, mainstream cloth mainstream hairstyle, mainstream music,... they rejected everything. And, somehow, that rejection, that rebellion was saturated in humility. Humility! I had never encountered it previous. Here was a real rebellious concept: Humility! Rebellion mixed with Humility, and the deepest, cool ancient language in some tricked out alphabet. I had to know more.

I gradually started to experiment with different practical aspects of Krishna consciousness. I was reading more of their books, I tried to chant now and then I liked it.

Just as it started to become a bit of a strain on my friendships, I moved (with my family) from NY to CA, San Diego. That made it easy for me and my friends. I made all new friends in So CA and they already accepted the fact that I was into being a Hare Krishna. That worked out pretty cool.

and forth. Stared at the house for a few minutes, turned around and drove back to my dorm room.

But I got more and more Into Krishna. I went to some Sunday feasts. I was chanting all the time. I would offer my food to Krishna. I was into it.

INSIDE OUT toured with Shelter. That was the first time I had ever lived with devotees. The experience was intense. I met a very nice man, an older devotee, named Dhanurdhara Swam, he helped me out a lot, and gave me a lot of advice which was very true.

I didn't want to leave the devotees. The lifestyle was too amazing. It was 100% rebellion against the material world. No TV, no nothing. Full on. I felt as if my previous 19 or so years of life had pushed me to this point, and now I didn't want to back away from it.

I joined Shelter.

Jeez. I really was hard telling Zack I was leaving Inside Out. It was depressing. Looking back, I sometimes wish I hadn't. I loved the band so much. But being in Shelter meant that I could live with devotees so I went for it. It was a really hard decision. In the end it worked out well.

Through Tom Capone, again, I met Chris Bratton from Chain of Strength, and was even semi in the band for like a day (Holy!). But Alex and Chris thought I would be better in a new band they were doing, INSIDE OUT.

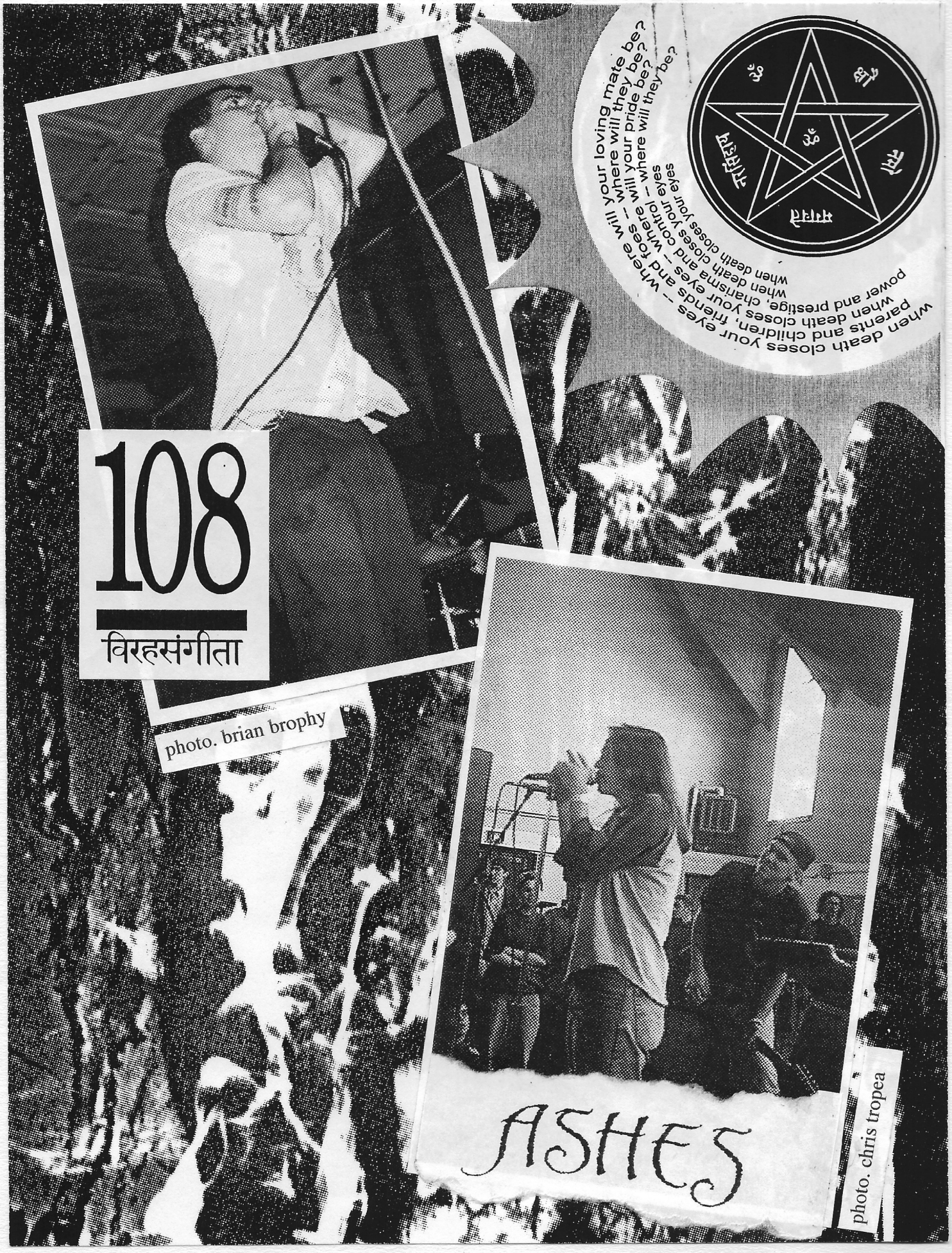
That's where I met Zack, who proved to be a strong inspiration for me, and helped me push myself forward into Krishna consciousness. We wrote songs together and played them together. I loved Zack. We sang about spirituality. We sang about life.

For the first time, I went to a temple. I was nervous as anything. Actually, the first time I went, I just drove there, sat in the car with my knees chattering back

That was when I became full bore "Hare Krishna." I remember the first time I shaved my head in a San Diego bathtub. I remember the first time I walked on the sidewalk in a dhoiti-dress. Total butterflies in the stomach.

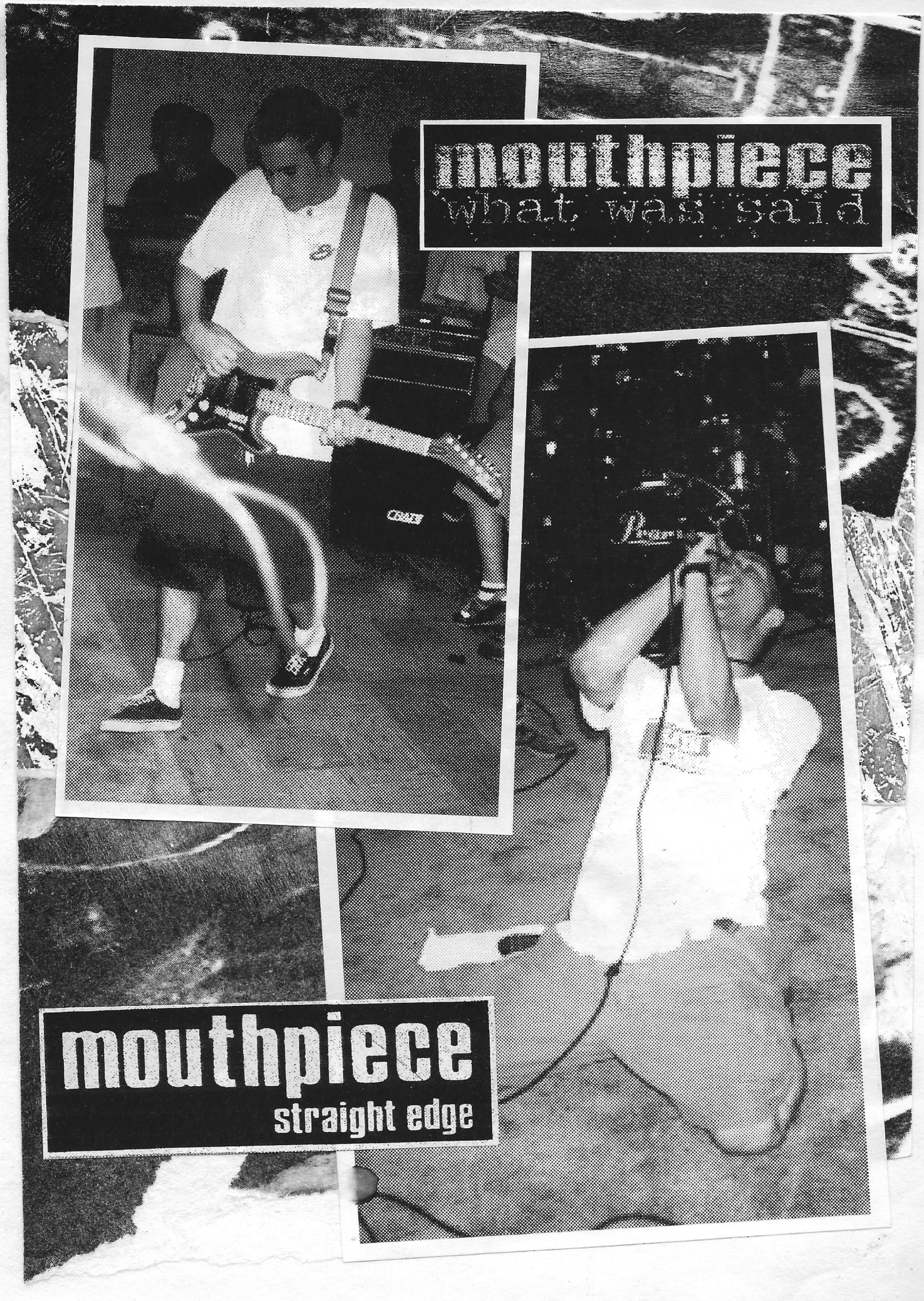
I'm still chanting. I feel good that I escaped the pull, the drag, the sucking whirlpool I left Shelter after a while and started a second band, 108 - and that's what I'm doing now. I love the band and band members in the same way that I loved Inside Out, except with a lot more depth of intensity. I am stoked.

Well, it's too long. I'll shut up.

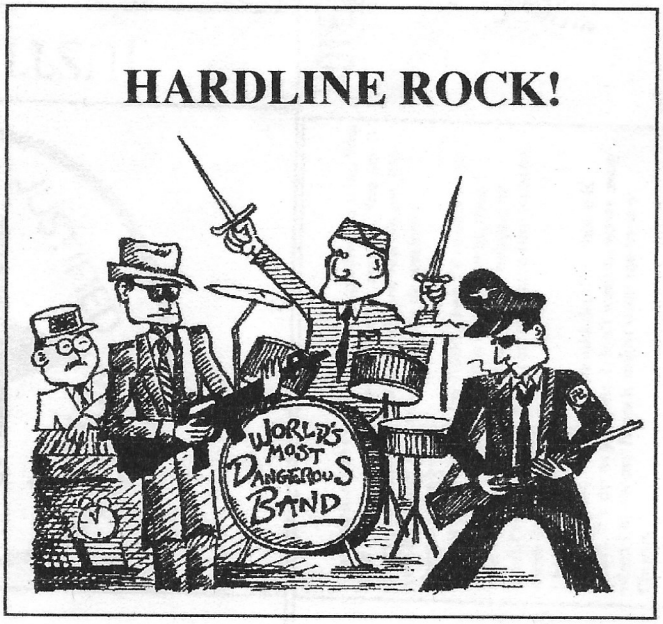

108
विरहसंगीता
photo. brian brophy
When will your loving mate be?
Where will they be?
Will your pride be?
Where will they be?
When death closes your eyes
When death closes your eyes --
When death closes your eyes --
When death closes your eyes --

LIES

ONCE AGAIN YOU EXPECT US TO BELIEVE YOUR LIES, BUT I REMOVED THE BLINDFOLD THAT YOU PUT ACROSS MY EYES, I CAN NO LONGER SIT BACK AND WATCH, WATCH YOUR SYSTEM DESTROY WHAT'S LEFT OF ME, EVERYTHING THAT SURROUNDS ME IS A LIE, NO MORE. THIS IS NOT FREEDOM, WE DON'T EVEN QUESTION IT, THESE ARE YOUR STANDARDS, THESE ARE YOUR IDEAS, THESE ARE YOUR MORALS, BUT THIS IS MY LIFE, I'M TAKING BACK MY FUCKING LIFE, I WONT LET YOU MAKE A LIVING OFF MY MISERY.


mouthpiece
what was said
mouthpiece
straight edge

You have no right to claim any position of self-righteousness stand on high petty kings. Perpetuating your own piousness championing the causes of the 'innocent.' So virtuous one day you'll drown in your own excrement. Many have claimed the armor of morality. The armor of 'absolutes.' It did not save them from themselves. Your crusade against the infidels' is a sickening gesture of your hypocritical absurdities. Neo-puritanists carrying the torches of a witch-hunt. How many will burn in the name of compassion? How much blood will be spilled in the name of life? How many will you repress in the name of freedom? (none, you are NO threat to anyone save yourselves!) 'friendly fascism' is fascism nevertheless. Violence against violence only breeds further violence. If ignorance and bigotry are the things you hate, how do you sleep at night knowing that you are your own worst enemy. Personally, i grow weary of your 'authoritative' rhetoric. Spewing forth ideological concepts that lack any personal interpretation. Regurgitating facts digested from a PETA pamphlet. Talking down to me from your high horse of perfection. Playing the role of the self appointed saint. The air around you does not bring 'dignity' to my mind far less. If, to be rid of you, was as easy as scraping my shoe against the sidewalk curb. You are not needed nor are you wanted. You scream about animal rights while you appear only as militant misanthropes. Your message never reaches my ears. I've seen too many people preaching the 'hardline', who view the world as a hellish place, run by uncaring 'demons.' The world will not be moved by your hatred. It will not sway under your vehemence. True change begins with love, a love for the simple beauty of existence, a love for the everyday freedoms we enjoy (and yet, sadly, take for granted.) This love should be shared among friends, family, and even enemies. Love is a contagious emotion, as is hate. Which emotion would you prefer to espouse towards the world? I see much that i hold with contempt but the hatred that this feeling creates will not advance the changes i wish to see exist. My love for the things i hold dear in this existence are my only motivator; it is the path to personal and social freedom in a society sadly lacking in both originality and generosity. How will you bring about change while you are wrapped in that cloak of self importance you were so proudly? My choice of veganism is an action that expresses my love for the world i dwell in, it is not a 'battle stance.' If you truly want to change the world than you would be well advised to step off the throne you have placed yourself upon and start treating people for what they are, people. A simple conversation does more to educate both parties involved than any other medium. Stand on high petty kings. The kingdom slowly dies, for you neglect it in your blind crusade.



(Extreme moralists are a threat to all our freedoms. Hitler himself was a prime example of an extreme moralist. He was a strict vegetarian and he was adamantly opposed to drinking, drug use and smoking. You have no right to claim any position of self-righteousness!)

=SCRATCH=

I saw another kid go down again today and I made myself another promise that I wouldn't go that way. Another young mind surrendered to the tradition of age, perpetuating the same nightmarish chronology which dictates who can vote who can drink who can fuck who can work who can forget everything and buy into the standard workweek and who can remember the special thing they used to have called being young.

!youth rule america!

We have made a decision not to play into this system of age into apathy. Starting today, on the night this was written, we have consciensously agreed to stop our aging now. We will remain at this present age and thus refuse to be swindled into assimilation into adult amerikkka. We, the members of the way out teen revolution have made this our fight.

Adult Amerikkka is based on exploitation and greed. Anyone outside the 21 to 56 year age bracket is subject to exploitation. If you are too young, than your emotions, your beliefs, your styles, your sound is distorted into a marketable product and pawned in the adult economy where you will see none of the yield. If you are too old, then you are discarded. Having been drained through the traditional workweek of all tangible resources, your existence now is irrelevant to adult amerikkka and you are forgotten or often sentenced to spend the remainder of your days in one of the many concentration camps designed to house the undesirably aged ex-members of adult amerikkka. Don't allow yourself to become a victim of this system, Join us today.

The Way Out Teen Revolution is an international activist group who has organized an effective para-military force against the inhumane, and unjust scam known as the "natural" aging process. The revolution front voluntarily claims responsibility to various terrorist acts which have occurred around the world in the past year and currently continues to recruit, train and deploy teams of teen terrorists into the music, literary and graphic media worlds in order to bring the established adult aesthetic to a bloodful demise. The Revolution Teens aknowledge and celebrate the great strength and work of noteworthy groups such as the Knotwork Youth Resistance, the Last Straw Association, the SleepOver teen defense league, the Anti-Scenester Coalition, and all the other bands, fanzines, terrorist organizations who have resolved not to "grow up". We have recognized this "natural" process for what it is, a crucial weapon of the establishment used against any sort of deviation or rejection of the adult world. This system of chronology has claimed an innumerable count of once vibrant, open-minded, fun, youthful individuals and reduced them into assimilated drones of the adult economic structure. Every kid who sells out his brothers and sisters for the sweet fruits of university life, the monetary drive of the business world, or even the empty illusion of "maturity" is an irreplacable loss to us all. The time for Youth Rule America has come. For more information on the beliefs, goals and demands of the Way Out Teen Revolution please feel free to contact us through the mail at:

!way out teen revolution!

way out teens 2737 morris road ardmore pa 19003.

the way outs is also the name of a new local band of teen empowerment featuring members of knotwork, justified action and the gurlz with gunz. we have a very raw live 6 song demo available now. it is free with 2 stamps through the mail. we anticipate a split seven inch record to be released later this year on our own label, "teen star records". thank you. xxx

LETS HEAR IT FOR GENITALIA

sex. when the hell are peoples attitudes concerning this subject going to grow up? society, at large, still acts like a child who is sneaking a peek at one of his fathers 'girlie books' and is amazed, confused, amused and terrified at the images he is seeing. you would think that after thousands of years of existence we would be more comfortable with the human body and all of its functions. But, nooooooooo.... sex remains a controversial and taboo subject, relegated to the closet of family and public discussion. (and, hidden in that closet with sex is all of its 'evil' relatives, its brothers, sisters, and cousins. for example, can any of you say homosexuality?)

from religious zealots like pat robertson and jerry falwell, to anti-sex/porn feminists like andrea dworkin and catherine mackinnon, to the political right-wing with people like ed meese and jesse helms, even to our underground scene with groups like hardline, theres still a war being waged against sex and sexuality in general. take for example the religious right. (particularly christianity, and the deep scars its treatment of sex has left on us to this very day.) the foes of sex education and the foes of abortion. they claim that the rudimentary knowledge that children are taught in public schools, knowledge which is vital to every childs healthy development, promotes homosexuality (so what?), promiscuity, and the destruction of morals. (whose morals?) first, breathing makes you promiscuous. to be human (and alive) is to be sexual. children are extremely curious people and exploring their sexuality is a natural stage in every childs life, try as some people might to ignore and deny this fact. to try and keep children sexually ignorant is wrong. to do that to anyone is wrong. (there are two things in life that you can truly depend on: men and women will want to fuck and people will try to stop them. it's that simple.) children need to know how their bodies work and what may happen to them if they engage in sexual activities. (i.e. std's, aids, pregnancy, etc.) to send a child into the world without the slightest clue about sexual matters is as irresponsible as handing a child a loaded gun. take the religious rights ranting about the 'holocaust' of unborn children due to abortion. it is the ranting of irresponsible hypocrites. they have handed children across the world guns and are now crying out in rage because these children have shoot themselves. the protectors of morality (ah, sure...) create the problem by denying children the education that they must be allowed to possess. birth control prevents abortion. sex education IS birth control. sexual education prevents abortion. (DUH!)

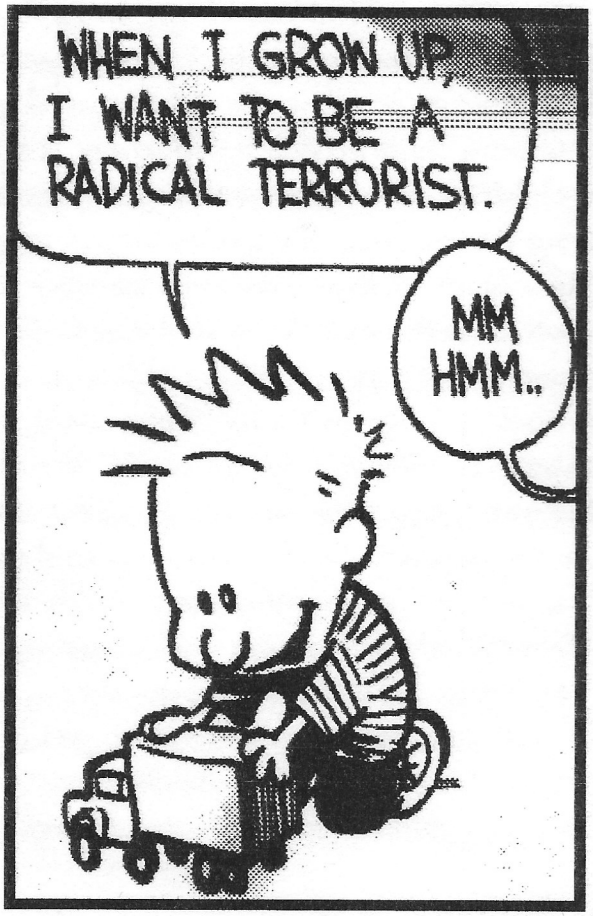
look, sex is not a simple function of reproduction. (which, as a belief, simplifies the human condition and relegates women back into the position of dependent, baby making machines.) sex is one of THE most fulfilling human experiences one can enjoy. the sex drive is the only urge we must really TRY to suppress. the sex drive is the second greatest, innate urge we possess. it is only rivalled (barely) by the need to eat and drink. wake up and smell the body fluid children. you cannot hate nor can you despise your very nature. (especially if you claim to want to return to it my hardline companions.) instead of vilifying sex and adopting religious tones of contempt and condemnation, why don't you try to understand it. sexuality is one powerful force. (just ask any advertisement executive for confirmation on this fact.) so get FUCKING (no pun intended... yeah, sure.) use to it. i would really like to see more positive attitudes about sex out there. if i wanted christian guilt trips and puritan repression, i would have joined a church.

...SCRATCH

Do me a favor, find a dollar bill and look at it. Our world being abused, animal exploitation, senseless murders, wars and basically everything we claim to hate and claim to stand opposed to is based on that little piece of paper in your hands. It is the extent of our enemies power. It is their heart. The day we see this small, ink stained sheet as nothing BUT a piece of paper is the day the status qou falls. Sadly, i don't think this will ever happen. The god of the worlds true religion has to massive a congregation.

This is a sad and lonely generation we live in. It seems to laugh to little. Tragic. If we need anything in this world, it is a sense of humor. It seems only better to me to laugh at the world around you than to waste your time spitting at it. Laughter unsettles the world more than spitting at it besides spit at the world and it will only spit back. (I personally find this world more absurd than hateful.)

I HOPE WERE ALL GOING TO BE SATISFIED WHEN THERE'S NOTHING LEFT BUT CONCRETE, CROPLAND AND 40 BILLION PEOPLE. HELL, I'D REALLY HATE TO THINK THAT ALL OUR EFFORT WAS IN VAIN.



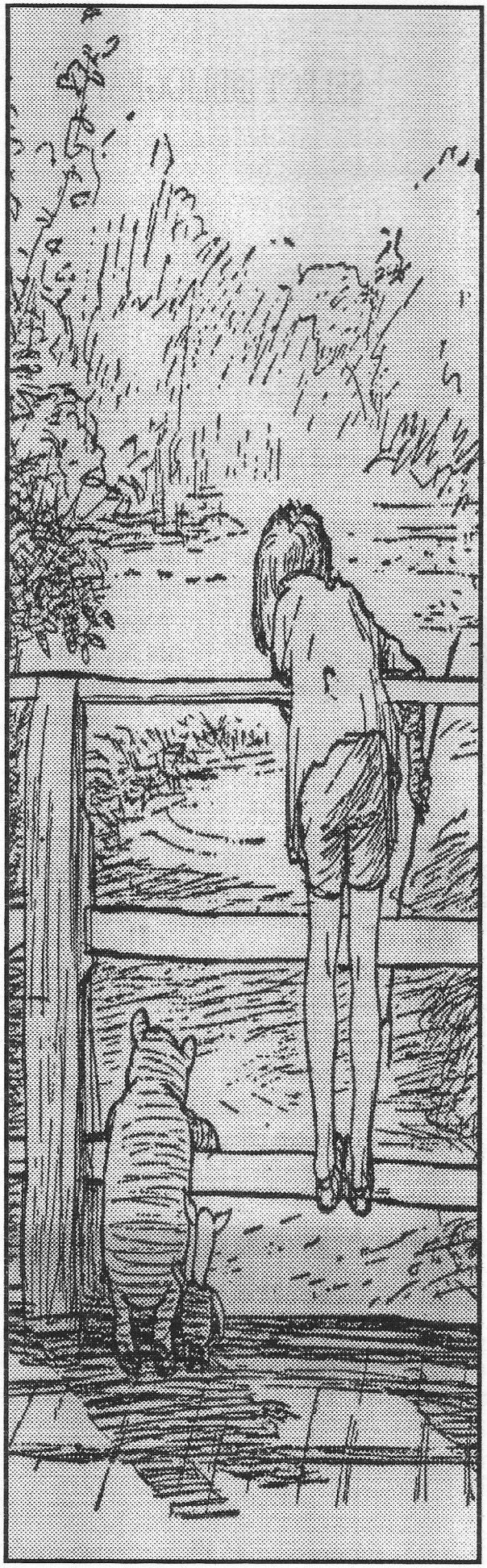
I was reading HOLOCAUST fanzine #3 andi came across some blatant stupidity. One of the 'writes' was ranting about fascism and how vegans are not fascist, (We aren't ya know....seig heil!) that it is the meat and dairy industies that are the true fascists. The 'writer' later concludes this rant with these following words and i quote," I wish i had the POWER TO CONTROL EVERYONE so i could turn this world into a vegan paradise." (Emphasize added.) Yeah. Now that's not fascist is it?

=SCRATCH=

Just a few things... I don't know about you but it seems that I'm being bombarded with a million things to do and I never have time to do it all. Between work, school, the band, the zine, the mail... Is it too much? Am I too lazy, its almost sad to believe that I rather sit around all day and pick my nose than to get up and do something... Motivation is what I'm talking about... Anyone got some for me? But I do a lot of thinking in the meantime. I almost solved all of the problems with the hardcore scene, but I'm not really sure that I want to tell you all. Seriously I think I figured out something, this scene has too many rules, or codes, and no one to enforce them all, (sorry, id love to take the job but like I was saying...) and that's where it gets all crazy. Some are just plain outright ridiculous you and I both know what were talking about because we've bitched about them one time or another in our zine or what not... Do we need such groups like vegan power, or girl edge within hardcore? I have never witnessed any event where a girl was discriminated in any way within the hardcore scene, please let me know your stories if there are any... And the last time I checked any group or association whose name incorporates the word "power" is not a good one... White power, black power, vegan power, just a bigger joke than the next one... So what, there is no room for us whom are just plain old vegetarians? Will we die in your "firestorm"? There are no room for these separatist groups in my scene. And yes this is my scene, if you want to disassociate yourself from hardcore, or straightedge, good... Do it. Go. And do it quietly, please don't try and take it down with you... You know how the saying goes: "If your not now... you never were." I don't want to hear about why you denounce the "X" or how your to mature for hardcore... Hardcore has a foundation as solid as stone, and its these few week structures we have to repair... There no time to rebuild.

Everything that I started evolved around the dreams I had and the opportunities hardcore gave me to pursue them... Weather it was starting my zine, my band, my friends I've met, etc... There's a big difference between hardcore and the world outside of it, and I'm going to do everything in my power to stop you from taking it away from me. And when I do grow up, and I hope to leave it just as well for the next generation to come, I will use every thing I have learned to help me through the rest of my life. Yeah I know I'm not going to be going to hardcore shows at age 40 just as I knew as a child that I wasn't going to be playing with GI Joes at my age now or that I wasn't going to be a boy scout for the rest of my life (but ill always remember the scouts motto: "Be prepared." and does that come in handy). And just about everything that I have or had held "true" or feel strongly about will always have a place I'm my heart, weather it be the love between me and my girlfriend, friends, family or memories of a wonderful childhood, or hardcore. And as long as I can help it... I will never forget any of this...

Jon-Christian (Knotwork)
216 S. Cedar La., Upper Darby, PA 19082

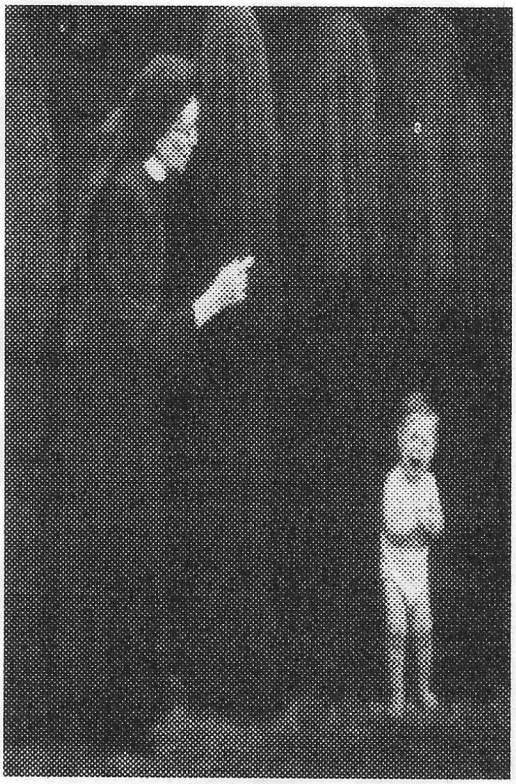


ATTENTION WORLD: You hereby have my permission to be as ignorant and as pathetic as you like but keep your fucking mouths shut around me. o.k, this is coming off the top of my head here so bear with me. knotwork #2 is finally complete. it didn't ask to be born with bolts in its neck but it really didn't have a say in the whole matter. it took an entire year for jon and i to get around to creating a second issue. hopefully, it will take us considerable less time to put out issue 3. we accept contributions and we're still taking submissions concerning 'what straight-edge means to you' so send us something. ya, before i forget,i would like to hear your opinions concerning drug legalization...pro or con. i'm personally for drug legalization and i feel that the existing drug laws are repressive, hypocritical and destructive. if you feel otherwise, write me and inform me as to why. i would like to hear from other straight-edge kids who don't really follow the party line on this particular topic. anyway, i hope you enjoyed this issue of knotwork, we're really happy with it.

outspoken and persistantly yours,

SCRATCH.

burn a flag for me.



endnotes:

1. distro prices are 10 zines for $6. ppd.

2. the piece on vandalism was written by an unknown contributor from this address: 1725 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. *(courtesy of razzle, kidney room fanzine)*

3. the piece written by vic of 108 was origionally intended to be part of the "What straightedge means to you..." but since it stood well on its on we decided to publish it seperatly... also submitted by mike parcell.

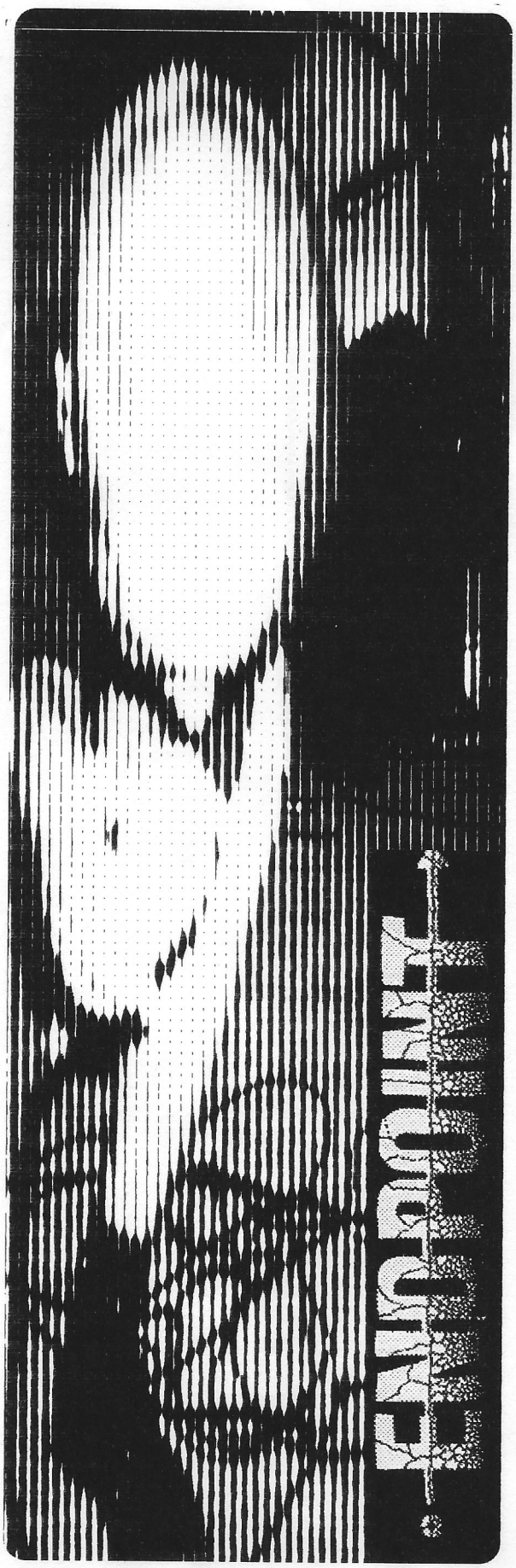
4. this zine is 100% diy.

CONS

This Fall the Judiciary Committee of the Pennsylvania General Assembly will debate HB 2982, which if passed could have far-ranging implications well beyond the state of Pennsylvania. Representative T.J. Rooney's bill would make all record recordings bearing the "Parental Advisory" sticker illegal to anyone under 18. Fines to stores found in violation range from $25 per album for a first offense to $100 per album for subsequent violations. Anyone under 18 caught attempting to buy a "stickered" album would be required to perform between 25 and 100 hours of community service at a domestic violence or rape crisis center.

Actual rapists get off easier (see story below). Aside from other states following Pennsylvania's lead if the bill is passed and found Constitutional, there is concern how record stores will respond. It is feared many outlets will decide not to stock "stickered" material to escape harassment and persecution. [courtesy of Rock Out Censorship (R.O.C.), P.O. Box 147, Jewett, OH 43986. Phone: 814 946 6535.

The above piece was taken from **GAUNTLET**: *EXPLORING THE LIMITS OF FREE EXPRESSION.* I wanted people to be aware of this absurd proposal. we're at war it would seem. ... SCRATCH



closing. OK maybe some of you are quite confused. I'm speaking of the numerous amount of zines I've been putting out lately, so let me give you a quick run down.

Knotwork Fanzine - my baby (whom I almost left on a door step and ran from), Knotwork was the first zine that I ever did. It started as a hardcore/straightedge zine and thats what I plan to keep it as. So in that case it discusses what you would probably call "typical" hardcore and straightedge topics. Some one has to do it. Along with photos and occasionally interviews, Knotwork is just a "free for all" hardcore mess.

JONJON - I had started this one to place knotwork. Its a little more on the personal side. I did put together a full issue (where as other issues will probably be not as big), issue number zero containing additional writing from Chris Mullen.

Sleepover - one pager, usually, started by Beau (Hearthrob Friendzine) and I. Just something to do when my friends sleep over my house. It gets pretty boring at 3am.

I Hate You Fuckzine - written by alter egos, Jonny Edge and Chisel. Soaked and coated with thick and sweet straightedge hate. Free.

And in the works, Dominic (Last Straw), and I are going to start putting together various factsheets to educate the un informed and weak minded youth. So look for that.

Yeah, its quite a load but its one more step ahead, and for the better. Its the least I can do, for hardcore, something that has given me so much, fun times, good friends, great music, education, and a strong mind and heart. And the list goes on... Yeah, we may be a bunch of nerds with our computers, and I even been called asshole. In the end its us whom triumph. We win...

...And I'm still stronger than ever.

Thank You.

JON XXX

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Jon

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KNOTWORK

Photo: Christ.

scratch

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